

VIA MARSEILLES]

The London and China Telegraph.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY ON ARRIVAL OF THE P. & O. MESSAGERIES AND PACIFIC MAILS FROM CHINA JAPAN STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, &c.

IN CONNECTION WITH THE "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS." A WEEKLY SUMMARY FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS.

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Latest Advices.

PORTS	OUTWARD.		HOMeward.
	From London.	Arrived out.	Received April 27.]
JAPAN—Yokohama	Jan. 19	Mar. 8	Mar. 13
Yedo	—	—	7
Osaka and Hiogo	—	—	9
Hakodadi	—	—	5
Nagasaki	—	—	7
CHINA—Peking	—	—	8
Tien-tsin	—	—	9
Chefoo	—	—	6
New-chwang	—	—	16
Hankow	—	—	10
Kin-kiang	—	—	18
Chin-kiang	—	—	15
Shanghai	" 26	" 14	19
Ningpo	—	—	20
Foochow	—	—	21
Formosa	—	—	27
Amoy	—	—	15
Swatow	—	—	23
Hong Kong	Feb. 4	" 12	20
Canton	—	—	21
Macao	—	—	11
PHILIPPINES—	Jan. 19	Feb. 27	" 27
Manila	—	—	24
COCHIN-CHINA	Feb. 9	Mar. 17	" 24
Saigon	" 2	" 15	" 26
SIAM—Bangkok	—	—	17
BORNEO—	—	—	" 29
Lahor	—	—	24
Sarawak	—	—	" 5
Batavia	—	—	" 5
Samarang	—	—	" 5
Sourabaya	—	—	" 5
MALACCA STRAITS—	—	—	" 5
Singapore	" 23	" 27	" 5
Penang	" 16	" 17	" 5
Ceylon—	—	—	" 5
Galle	—	—	" 5
Colombo	Mar. 9	Apr. 2	" 5

THE MAILS, &c.

The French mail, with the advices dated as above, was delivered, via Marseilles on the 27th inst. (Friday). The Japan advices have been anticipated by the mail received per Occidental and Oriental Company's steamer *Oceanic*, via San Francisco, on the 17th inst. The next inward (P. and O.) mail, from Yokohama 30th, Shanghai 28th, Hong Kong 29th March, Singapore 5th April, which is due, via Brindisi, on Monday next, the 7th prox., left Galle on the 13th inst., one day early. The telegraph lines to China continue to work satisfactorily.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail to Naples and Marseilles, per Messageries Maritimes steamer *Anadyr*, arrived April 25.—From Yokohama: None. From Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Hansen, Mr. Russell, Mr. Smith, Mr. Webster, Mr. Victor, Mr. Fitz-Miller. From Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Pomeroy, Mr. and Mrs. Usada, Mr. and Mrs. Sison, Mr. Potter, Mr. Hitch, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Grey, Mr. Howell, Mr. Brun, Mr. Ungami Sokichi, Mr. Kitamura Thobbi, Mr. Corden, Mr. De Lemmer, Mr. Coops, Miss Delano. From Saigon: Mr. Edgard, Mr. Roqua, Mr. Doris, Mr. Drouet, Mr. Ostolfin, Mr. Bataille, Mr. Waltier, Mr. Forestier, Mr. Orbod, Mr. and Mrs. Mongeol. From Batavia: None. From Singapore: Lady Jervois, the Misses Jervois, Captain Paton (A.D.C. to Sir Wm. Jervois), Mr. and Mrs. Van Dugteren, Mr. and Mrs. Bege, Mr. and Mrs. Uernark, Mr. and Mrs. Harnott, Mr. Hen, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Mair, Mr. Goerra, Mr. Klopp, Mr. De Brock, Mr. Leroux, Mr. Hugterman, Mr. Strootmann, Mr. Van den Leen, Mr. Brondgeest, Mr. Van Kappen, Mr. Klaring.

To London, per steamer *Patroclus* (Holt's line), expected May 2.—From Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Budgen, Mr. and Mrs. Griffiths, Mr. and Mrs. Morris, Mr. Gamwell. From Singapore: Capt. Hoffmann, Mr. Leirhoff.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer *Heddesp*, from Southampton, April 19.—To Yokohama: Mr. and Mrs. Midday Dare. To Hong Kong: Mr. T. W. Snell, Lieut. J. A. L. Coker. To Singapore: Mrs. Waller, Miss Deans. To Ceylon: Dep. Paymaster G. W. Rippon. Per P. and O. steamer *Ceylon*, from Brindisi, April 30.—None. Per P. and O. steamer *Decan*, from Southampton, May 3.—To Hong Kong: Lieut.

H. D. law, Nav. Sub. lieut. F. Lancelot, Dr. T. D. Popham, Mr. G. Hecksher. To Singapore: Dr. and Mrs. Little and two children, Mrs. Wells, Miss Silver, Miss Lawrence. To Penang: Mr. C. N. Van Goor. Per P. and O. steamer *Australia*, from Southampton, May 17.—To Shanghai: Mr. Lazarus. To Singapore: Capt. and Mrs. A. Glen.

Per French steamer *Hoghty*, from Marseilles, May 6.—To Yokohama: Mr. and Mrs. Forester, Mr. Balanche, Mr. Balitte, Mr. Eulpin, Mr. Dourille, Mr. Scheidt, Mr. Osouf, Mr. Aschenter, Mr. Kawarse, Mr. Hashimoto, Miss Cope. To Saigon: Comte General Valliere and suite. To Batavia: Mrs. Duperron, Mr. Van der Loeff, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. de Haart, Mr. J. D. Haart, Mr. and Mrs. Gonsalves. To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. W. Mulholland and two children, Mr. and Mrs. Lucksurger, Mr. E. Scott Russell, Mr. Baumgarten, Mr. Possenti. Per French steamer *Anadyr*, from Marseilles, May 20.—To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Cay. To Hong Kong: Mr. C. V. de Cerecal and family. To Batavia: Mr. J. A. F. Van der Butte.

Summary of News from the Far East.

Lamentable as the details already published concerning the famine in the North of China have been, the present mail brings far more harrowing facts than any which have yet come to light. According to a correspondent at Chefoo, the luckless people, driven almost wild with hunger, have in many cases eaten the thatch off the roofs of their houses, while some have kept themselves alive by devouring fuel-leaves, and others have died for want even of these; untiring efforts have been made in Shanghai to relieve these sufferings. Much excitement has been created in Tientsin among the officials by the recent revolt of the soldiery, the question being asked, "Who is to blame?" and rumour fixing upon General Chou, who, it seems, was responsible for the soldiers being squeezed out of the wages due to them. As, however, risings among soldiery on this account are by no means uncommon in China, the matter will probably be hushed up after a short time, unless further disturbances take place. The proclamation concerning the Chefoo Convention has been posted up in a permanent form at Tientsin. According to the *North China Herald* a curious result has been brought about by the action of the Chinese authorities with reference to *lekin*, one immediate effect of the abolition of the tax on foreign imports within the Settlements having been a declaration by the native merchants in the city and suburbs that unless they too were exempted they would all remove into the foreign settlements. The movement was reported to have spread even to Soochow, where the people said they did not see why they should pay *lekin* if Shanghai does not. *Lekin*, it is justly pointed out, is essentially a war contribution, and cannot be maintained with a semblance of justice at the present time, though of course the mandarins cling to it on account of the facilities for squeezing which it offers. The laying out of the foreign settlement at Ichang led to some little misunderstanding with natives. The people got an idea that they would not be paid for their land, although told they would be compensated in due course, and they began to throw stones at the foreign visitors; they were, however, soon quieted, and no harm was done. The Hong Kong papers contain a despatch embodying the reply of the Secretary of State for the Colonies with reference to the *C. O. Whitmore* case, which caused so much sensation a short time back. The Harbour-master's returns for 1876 show an increase in the shipping.

The present mail does not bring later advices from Japan than those already to hand via the United States, and embodied in our last issue.

The details of the arrest of ex-Sultan Abdullah are reported, also that Viceroy is to be installed as Sultan at Perak, under the guidance and direction of the British Resident. The Tamil Christians presented an address to Lady Jervois and her daughters. Commander Wilcox has taken command of H.M.S. *Juno* as senior officer. At the meeting of the Legislative Council on the 23rd March the Bill for Chinese Immigrants was read a third time, after some opposition from Mr. Reade and Mr. McArthur.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

Our advices from this port by the present mail extend to the 13th March, and are only one day later than those received *via* San Francisco on the 17th inst., and published in our last issue.

CHINA.

TIENTSIN.

The *North China Herald* correspondent, writing under date of March 7, says:—

The recent rising of the troops has created quite an excitement, I hear, in official circles, and raises the question, where lies the blame? I believe that General Chou comes in for the largest share, so far, at least, as squeezes go, but it is of little avail for the pot to call the kettle black. The matter of army reform is a very serious question for this corrupt Government to deal with. It would be a matter of interest to know how the present case will be met; with charges of embezzlement, some troops gone and sowing disaffection doubtless, and others desirous of leaving, the authorities will not have an easy task. The Viceroy intends starting in a few days to inspect the camps at Ta Ming Fu, in the southern neck of this province, from which place he will return *via* the Grand Canal to Tientsin. He need not be looked for here for about three weeks probably.

The proclamation relating to the Chefoo Convention has now been posted in a permanent form in and about the city. It is written on strong paper and pasted on boards, and apparently put up to remain till purposely taken down.

CHEFOO.

The *North China Daily News* Correspondent speaking of the distress from famine in Shangtung says:—

It is reported everywhere that many eat the rotten Kao-liang stalks from the roofs of their houses. Of their eating fuel leaves there is no doubt; thousands eat them and thousands more die because they cannot get even that. Villages of 500 families report 300 dead of starvation. Out of a family of four three are dead, and the fourth little boy is under my care now. Who is dead or dying is the subject of everybody's conversation, and the worst is yet to come, I fear. The number of those who go daily for gruel to soup-kitchens is so great that they only get six or eight cash worth each. Many have had nothing but this to live on for months, and even young men of twenty are getting so weak that they cannot walk ten *li* for it. Speaking after careful consideration, and in the language of sober, sad truth, it is said that one-half of the people in the villages of Lui-kü will not live to see the wheat crop.

NANKING.

The *Sinpaio* publishes an order from the Viceroy of Nanking that mulberry-trees shall be passed free through the Customs to Wuchang. The Che-isien of Kung-ngan is anxious to introduce the manufacture of silk in that neighbourhood, to improve the condition of the people, and has contributed and raised money to buy 10,000 grafts of mulberry-trees, and twice that number of young trees, in the province of Chekiang, and begs that they may be allowed to come free from imposts. Orders to this effect have accordingly been given to the Custom-houses of both the Two Kiang and Hu-kwang.

SHANGHAI.

The present mail brings advices from this port to the 16th March; the French mail from London Jan. 26 was received on the 14th March.

Most energetic and creditable efforts have been made by the residents, both native and foreign, in the Settlements of Shanghai, to afford relief to the sufferers from the famine in the north. The harrowing description of the distress given by the correspondent of the *North China Daily News* evoked the strongest feeling of sympathy. A meeting was promptly held at the Custom House, a committee formed, and before the mail left as much as Tls. 4,000 had been collected and remitted to Chefoo; no less than Tls. 1,000 was collected by one of the English missionaries among the Chinese in a single afternoon, and similar efforts were being made by the Catholic missionaries in the French

settlement. During the last two months Mr. Ton-King-Sing, a well-known Singapore Chinese gentleman, had collected Tls. 30,000 and 10,000 dresses, which had been forwarded to the north through the medium of the Shangtung Guild. All classes and nationalities have, in fact, heartily co-operated, and the work has been set on foot in a thoroughly systematic way, the Settlement being divided into districts, within each of which certain gentlemen have undertaken to receive and collect subscriptions.

The charge of the British Consulate has again been taken by Mr. W. M. Cooper, during the absence of Mr. Davenport, who has gone to Wuhu to make arrangements for the opening of that port.

The Chinese authorities have erected a memorial hall and tablet, with a boundary wall over and around the grave at Soonkiong, of the late General Ward, who took so prominent a part in the suppression of the Taiping Rebellion. Mr. Myers, the U. S. Consul General, was present at the ceremonies, which were conducted in accordance with Chinese procedure in such cases, the deceased having attained high grade as a mandarin, and having been naturalised as a Chinese subject.

The annual meeting of shareholders in the S. S. N. Co. is called for the 23rd March. The Chinese have already paid up Tls. 1,200,000 on account of their purchase, and it is understood that a first instalment will be paid to shareholders at the end of this month. The *Daily News* names Tls. 70 as the probable amount.

Mr. Hart has been elected chairman of the new Municipal Council, and Mr. Lavers vice-chairman. The various sub-committees have been appointed, and the police force, as usual, inspected. It numbered 100, and the men are reported to have presented a remarkably smart appearance. The chairman of the outgoing Council, Mr. Krauss, at the close of the inspection complimented Mr. Penfold, the superintendent, and the inspectors on their good conduct and efficiency. A proposal has been made to the Municipal Council to make a new road between the Fuhkien and Hupeli-roads, across certain lots, the owners of which will cede the necessary land at half its assessed value. The Council, however, do not think the road is sufficiently necessary to justify them in going to any expense to secure it. The question of extending the Yuenfong-road is again raised, and the Council are willing to do so if all the land required can be got at half its assessed value. It is proposed to have a deed of settlement drawn up defining the powers of the trustees of the General Hospital, and the general status of that institution under the present arrangements.

A meeting of American citizens, held at the U.S. Consulate, and presided over by Mr. Myers, U.S. Consul General, took into consideration the injury done to American interests by the rigid carrying out of American shipping laws, which require that the names of the vessels should be legibly painted on the stern and that the captains and mates should be American citizens. Instructions to carry out these rules strictly had, it appears, been received from Peking. No formal resolution was passed; but it was understood that the Consul-General would write a despatch to Mr. Seward, the U.S. Minister, expressing the views of the meeting.

We take the following items from the *North China Herald*:—

During the voyage of the British barque *Joyce Phillips* from Sydney to this port, the chief mate, David Williams, was accidentally shot by the captain, Henry Wilkinson. On the forenoon of the 22nd February, when the vessel was about one hundred miles off the Loochoo Islands, the captain took a revolver to pieces to clean it. In putting it together again, he was unable to find the proper place for one of the springs, and after working at it for a couple of hours, he loaded each chamber and put the revolver away. In the afternoon it occurred to him that the spring belonged to the trigger, and with the assistance of the mate he succeeded in placing it in its right position. While they were sitting talking together on a chest in the cabin, the captain having the revolver in his hand, one of the chambers was discharged, the ball entering the mate's body just below the ribs on the right side. The captain fancied he must have lowered the trigger unthinkingly. All efforts to save the mate's life were futile, and he died the following day. While conscious he made a statement in the presence of five members of the crew, saying the occurrence was an accident, and exonerating the captain from all blame. What he said was taken down in writing, and signed by each member of the crew present; he was too weak to sign it himself. An inquiry has been held into the circumstances of his death by Mr. Mowat, at H.B.M.'s Consulate, who after hearing the evidence of the captain, the second mate, and the steward, was convinced that the death was purely accidental, and that it was unnecessary for further proceedings to be had.

We have a programme of the Spring Race Meeting, to be held on the 30th April, and 1st and 2nd May next. It comprises eight events on the first, seven on the second, and seven on the third day.

We are informed that there is no possibility of the Shanghai Rowing Club sending a crew to compete in the interport four-oar race at the forthcoming Kobe Regatta. At the last meeting of the Shanghai Rowing Club it was agreed to accept the invita-

tion of the Kobe committee, but the captain who was then appointed now finds, on inquiry, that none of the members who were willing to form a crew can leave their business at the necessary time.

The American barque *Agate* arrived here on the 12th March in a damaged condition. She left New York on the 25th of October, and made a favourable passage to the Cape of Good Hope, entering the Ombay Passage on the 18th of January. A week later she struck a coral reef, not marked on the chart, extending four miles and a half to the southward and eastward of Boe Island. Her rudder was carried away and the gudgeons started; and her keel and bottom were much damaged by bumping on the reef, where she remained five days. It was not until about a hundred tons of cargo had been jettisoned that she floated, and it was then found that she leaked and was making between seven and eight inches of water within the hour. For the remainder of the passage it was necessary to keep the pumps constantly working; and the wonder is that she has succeeded in reaching her destination so well. Notwithstanding her misfortune, she made the passage in 133 days—very good under the circumstances.

The German steamer *Hesperia* arrived this week from Hamburg, having as passengers three officers and thirty-four marines for the gunboat *Cyclops*, whose present crew will shortly start for home.

It is expected that H.B.M.'s gunboat *Lapwing* will shortly be ready for sea. She has been provided with a new keel, a new false keel, new rolling chocks (commonly called bilge-pieces) and several new planks in her bottom. Her machinery has also been overhauled and made complete. When she leaves here it is thought that she will go to Japan.

The U.S. gunboat *Palos* was to leave on the 8th March for Ningpo, to be on hand at the opening of Wenchow.

FOOCHOW.

The panic with reference to Formosa has subsided, and the Chinese express themselves free from further apprehensions as to any designs on the part of Spain on the island. It is reported that Mr. P. Giquel is to be made a mandarin of the first-class.

A correspondent of the *Herald* describes a recent visit to the coal mines at Kelung, and gives a very encouraging report concerning the progress of that promising industry. A few months ago the work received a considerable stimulus by the arrival of a body of English miners. The machinery employed is said to be of the very best description, and it is hoped that ere long the production of coal will equal about 200 tons per diem. As the coal fields are barely three miles from the place of shipment—a little north of Kelung harbour—and a tramway runs from the north of the mines direct to this jetty, the cost of transport from the pit is comparatively trifling; and it is therefore probable that this useful undertaking will prove to be a most welcome source of income to the Provincial Government. Hundreds of Chinese, many from a considerable distance, arrive daily to watch the working of the mines and the coal-laden tramway cars running with terrific speed down the hill-side to the harbour. Ting Futai takes the greatest interest in the enterprise, and on the occasion of his recent visit minutely inspected the machinery and mining plant. To Mr. Hobson, lately Commissioner of Customs at Tamsui, much of the credit is, we are told, due, for having brought the mines to their present efficient working state. It is, therefore, to be regretted on public grounds that that gentleman should be removed from such a useful sphere of labour.

HONG KONG.

Our advices by this mail extend to the 22nd March; no later mail from London had arrived out.

The progress of the general trade of the Colony appears to be satisfactory, notwithstanding the complaints which are made respecting its diminished profitability. From the report of the Harbour-master for 1876, which has been published, it appears that there were 2,113 more vessels of all kinds, measuring 338,117 tons, that year than the preceding, and the junk trade showed an increase of 1,917 vessels, and 123,724 tons.

A despatch has been received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies by the Governor, in answer to the representations which were made at the public meeting convened some time back with reference to the *C. O. Whitmore* case. It will be recollected that an unfortunate man died in consequence of brutal treatment which he received on board that vessel, which was under the American flag, but that, in consequence of the suspension of the extradition treaty with the United States it was impossible to bring the offenders to justice. Lord Carnarvon, in his despatch, calls attention to the renewal of the treaty since that time, regrets the escape of persons apparently guilty of crimes revolting to humanity, and approves the sentiments conveyed in the resolutions passed at the meeting.

The *Daily Press* of the 21st March says, that the Chinese gunboat *Shen-chi*, which arrived the day before, was to leave again on the 22nd, to be present at the opening of the new port of Pak-Hoi. She took on board two customs-officers and a Chinese gunboat's crew. If she arrived before April 1, the port

would be opened that day, but if not, it would not be opened until her advent.

Five Chinamen, who in the early part of 1874 were found guilty of murder but were strongly recommended to mercy by the jury who tried them, have been released from prison, and appeared in the Supreme Court to express their thanks for the clemency shown to them. The murder took place at a village in Kowloong, but it appears that it was committed under great provocation, without premeditation, and in consequence of immoral acts on the part of the murdered man. On these grounds Sir Arthur Kennedy had commuted the capital sentence passed upon the men.

Mr. J. J. Francis has been admitted upon the roll of barristers of the Supreme Court.

MACAO.

A *mêlée* has occurred at the above place between the sailors of the Portuguese gunboat *Tipo*, which was being repaired there, and some of the soldiers of the garrison. There seems to have been some bad feeling between them, consequent on their having been on different sides during a revolt at Goa, under the Governorship of Viscount St. Jannario, some years ago. A pretty smart scuffle took place; two policemen were badly wounded, and it was found that the sergeant in charge was in complicity with the rioters. The *émeute* was, however, put down by military aid, and at latest dates all was quiet.

BORNEO.

SARAWAK.

The *Gazette* has the following items:—

We have after a somewhat long interval been able to welcome one of Her Majesty's ships at Sarawak; H.M.'s *Juno*, Commander Anson, anchored at the Moratabas entrance of this river on March 14, and sent up a steam launch on the same evening. The next day the commander with a party of officers visited Kuching, where they remained until the 17th. They were entertained at Astana. The very unpropitious weather prevented them, we fear, from seeing very much of Kuching, but we hope that what they did see left a favourable impression. Their Highnesses the Rajah and Raneé paid a visit to the *Juno* on the morning of the 17th, and remained on board to breakfast.

Their Highnesses the Rajah and Raneé visited the Mission School for the purpose of distributing the prizes to the successful boys. Besides four prizes awarded to the boys who were first in their classes there were others given by his Lordship the Bishop to the younger children, who had borne the best characters during the past year. The first prize, a copy of Miss Jacob's "Life of the Rajah Sir James Brooke," was awarded to Ah Thong; Ah Chong, Si Drass, and Ah Kong were also the recipients of prizes. Accompanying the distribution of the prizes, a few remarks were addressed to the boys by the Rajah, pointing out the advantages they were enjoying.

The school now numbers forty-five scholars—ten of whom are Dyaks. It has for some time now had the advantage of the service of a new master, Mr. Bayley, since whose arrival there had been a marked difference in the appearance and general deportment of the boys. It is also worth remark to what an extent the singing-class has improved both in compass of voice as well as in the pronunciation of English words. The improvement is more particularly noticeable in church. Singing may not appear to be a very important branch of education, but it materially tends to raise the general tone of those who learn to take an interest in it, and gives them an occupation apart from study, when in its place they might resort to more frivolous and perhaps even evil modes of recreation.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

SINGAPORE.

The present French mail brings advices from this port to the 29th March; the French mail from London Feb. 23 was received on the 27th March. We take the following items of intelligence from the *Straits Times*:—

Replies have been received to the despatch of his Excellency the Governor concerning Sultan Abdullah, Sultan Ismail, and the other Perak Chiefs said to have been implicated in the murder of Mr. Birch and the disturbances in Perak. These replies amount very nearly to an adoption of the recommendations of his Excellency, based upon the report of the Commission of Inquiry into the matter, which, it will be remembered, consisted of Judge Phillip, Mr. Plunket, and Mr. Paul; and the result is that Sultan Abdullah, the Lacksamana, the Shabandar and the Muntri of Perak are to be deported from the Native States. Sultan Ismail and his party are to remain in exile at Johore, his Highness the Maharajah having undertaken to secure their abstinence from interference in the affairs of Perak. Yusuf is to be acknowledged as the native ruler of Perak "dum se bene gesserit," and the Government will be carried on, under the advice of the Resident, in his name.

In pursuance of these intentions, Sultan Abdullah, the Laksamana, and the Shabandar, who have been residing here under supervision for the last three months, were arrested and conveyed to H.M. Civil Jail for safe custody until the place to which they are to be deported is determined on. Suitable allowances for their maintenance will be provided for out of the Perak revenues. The Muntri of Larut has also been sentenced to the same fate, and will be shortly brought down here in custody. Rajah Dris and other younger chiefs will be allowed to return to Perak as a matter of grace and clemency upon their promise of loyalty and good behaviour.

Mr. Bond, who is legal adviser to the Sultan Abdullah of Perak, upon learning of his client's arrest, immediately applied to the Registrar of the Supreme Court for a writ of Habeas Corpus, which, however, was not granted. The Sultan, or rather ex-Sultan, for he has been deposed, and the other chiefs were, we believe, arrested by the Governor's orders under Ordinance No. 4 of 1876 for the arrest and detention of State prisoners. Mr. Bond has, we are informed, telegraphed to the Secretary of State about the arrest, and contests its legality, on the plea that the Ordinance does not, and cannot, apply to the ex-Sultan. The point will, no doubt, be laid before the Acting Chief Justice. Almost contemporaneously with the arrest of the Perak chiefs another State prisoner, Rajah Mahdie, of Salangore fame, was released from custody in the Civil Jail by the Governor's order. The release was an act of grace, but unconditional, merely upon the Rajah's promise not to meddle with affairs in Salangore, and, it is said, the Rajah will go to Sumatra.

An extraordinary general meeting of the Tanjong Pagar Dock Company was held at the Company's offices. There were present, the Hon. W. Adamson in the chair; Mr. E. M. Smith, manager, Hon. W. H. Read, Hon. J. R. MacArthur, and Messrs. I. Henderson, J. Brussel, L. R. Glass, directors; Mr. E. T. Cork, legal adviser of the company; and Messrs. E. J. Wells, M. Little, H. T. Powell, J. Lütjens, A. Becker, P. Sohst, F. C. Bogardt, R. Jamie, A. Ross, J. Miller, C. Moses, J. R. Kellock, J. Cameron, H. Hinnekindt, W. G. Gulland, A. Currie, and W. Nicholson, shareholders. The resolution passed at a previous meeting of the shareholders was confirmed, by which Clause XXII., of the Articles of Association is altered to enable a meeting of shareholders representing two-fifths of the capital of the company to increase the capital of the company. It was then proposed that the capital of the company be increased from \$600,000 to \$800,000, the Chairman, the Hon. Mr. Adamson, explaining at some length the reasons which had induced the directors to recommend this course to the shareholders. An amendment to this was brought forward proposing that the capital be increased to \$1,000,000; but the original resolution was carried. Considerable discussion arose on a subsequent proposition that the new shares should be issued "at such time, in such numbers, and at such premium as the directors may from time to time decide," and it was urged that the directors should take the shareholders into their confidence, and declare in what manner they really intended to place the shares in the market; that the value of shares would be seriously affected by the uncertainty which must otherwise prevail; and that the directors were assuming to themselves discretion which properly belonged to the shareholders. An amendment was then proposed by Mr. Powell, and seconded by Mr. Hinnekindt, to the effect that the directors should at once place the shares in the market at a premium of 20 per cent., and on being put to the meeting a majority was in favour of the amendment, but a poll was demanded, and on a record being taken of the voting powers of those present, under section XL. of the articles of association, the amendment was declared lost—101 for, 484 against; the original resolution was then carried. Some other minor resolutions were then carried, and the meeting broke up with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

At the meeting of the Legislative Council the Chinese Immigrants, Crimping, and Deportation Bills were read a third time and passed. The Hon. W. H. Read proposed that the Chinese Immigrants Bill be read that day six months, and again pointed out the difficulties as well as the dangers of bringing the Bill into operation. The Hon. J. R. MacArthur seconded the motion, and the Attorney-General replied. The motion, however, met with no other support, and the Bill was read a third time and passed. The Hon. Mr. Whampoa was absent from indisposition, but, we believe, Mr. Whampoa is of opinion that the Bill will be found unworkable. After the Bill was passed some interesting informal discussion took place, we are informed, and assurances were given that due precautions will be taken and full explanations given before bringing the Bill into operation.

The *Government Gazette* contains the following notifications:—H. E. the Governor has been pleased to recognise Mr. T. H. Fredericks as Acting Vice-Consul for Denmark at Penang until further notice.

H. M.'s steamer *Maggie*, Commander Anson, which has been stationed here for some time, left the roads for the China station and will call at Labuan on her way to Hong Kong. Commander Wilcox, of H.M.S. *Grondel*, assumed command of H.M.S. *Juno* as senior naval officer on this station on the 26th, relieving Commander Anson, who has reverted to the command of H.M.S. *Maggie*.

The following address was presented to Lady Jervois and her daughters by the Tamil Christians of the St. Andrew's Church Mission. Lady Jervois made a suitable reply, which was duly explained to the congregation:—

TO LADY JERVOIS AND HER DAUGHTERS.

We, the undersigned members of the Tamil congregation, worshipping in the St. Andrew's Mission Chapel, beg that Your Ladyship, and your amiable daughters, will accept the copies of the Sacred Scriptures we now present.

We know that Your Ladyship and family act under the influence of their principles, for, ever since your arrival in this Island, you have not only adorned your station in life, but won the heartfelt respect and sympathies of all classes of people: and amid the claims and anxieties of your position, you have not forgotten the few humble Christians of this Mission: you and your daughters, as opportunities offered, mingled in our assembly, worshipped with us, and partook of the gracious emblems of our once crucified, but now exalted, Saviour; proving to us, that while Christianity regulates the distinctions of the different stations in life, it also engenders that true respect which always accompanies such conduct as you have displayed towards us.

As you are about to leave these shores, we will never cease to pray to our Heavenly Father, that He may bless, guide, and surround you, and his Excellency Sir William, and your family with every domestic happiness, wherever you may be.—Signed by

THE TAMIL CHRISTIANS; and Wm. H. GOMES, Missionary S.P.G.; FRANCIS SAMUEL, Tamil Catechist.

Market Reports.

(For dates see first page.)

EXPORTS.

TEA.

SHANGHAI.—Black: The week's business had been extremely limited in extent. It was anticipated that the remaining stock will have to be shipped by the teamen themselves, or taken back to the country to be mixed with the new crop, as there are no buyers for it here at present. The total export, with the stock, shows a total excess in the crop from the North of China of nearly ten million pounds over last year's. Statistics are:—

	1877.	1876.
Total arrivals ...	337,400 chests	273,000 chests
Settlements & shipments	324,400 "	273,000 "
Stock ...	13,000 "	—
Total export to date, in lbs.:—		
To Great Britain ...	74,709,281	66,278,744
" North America ...	2,275,023	870,385
" Continent of Europe ...	4,750,093	6,006,153
Totals ...	81,734,402	73,155,287

Green: There had been a fair business for the week, settlements being:—Moyune, 6,500 half-chests at Tls. 26 to 30½; Fychow, 2,000 half-chests at Tls. 22 to 25½; Pingsuey, 1,000 half-chests at Tls. 27;—total, 9,500 half-chests. Medium Moyunes had chiefly attracted attention, there being but few Teenkais left in stock. Teamen were anxious to dispose of what they still hold, and notwithstanding the fall in exchange there had been a gradually declining market, rates being fully two taels below those at which the market re-opened after the China New Year. From the highest point of the season the drop had been fully four-and-a-half taels, and chops for which Tls. 33 and 33½ were offered and refused might be bought at Tls. 28½ to 29. A considerable portion of recent purchases was going forward by steamer via London to New York. The stock comprised 4,000 half-chests Teenkai tea, 12,000 Moyune, 10,000 Fychow, 500 Pingsuey, and 1,000 Shanghai-packed. Statistics are:—

	1877.	1876.
Total arrivals ...	433,000 chests	435,000 chests
Settlements & shipments	405,500 "	433,500 "
Stock ...	27,500 "	1,500 "
Total exports to date, in lbs.:—		
To Great Britain ...	8,869,054	7,598,957
" North America ...	12,603,782	16,017,941
Totals ...	21,472,836	23,616,898

SILK.

SHANGHAI.—Great activity had prevailed since last mail, prices for Tatlees had advanced during the week Tls. 50 to 60 per picul, but the leaning was towards easier values at the close. Coarse Silks had not been so much sought after, but for fair 9/12 moss and good skeins an advance of Tls. 20 to 30 per picul was demanded. Re-reels had attracted much attention from their relative cheapness, and a very large business had been done therein at previous prices. Holders were now unwilling to sell, except at an advance of Tls. 20 per picul. The sudden and very decided improvement in Silk had so far inspired the few remaining holders with confidence in the article that it was difficult to find sellers of desirable lots except at much higher prices than home values would seem to warrant. It was difficult to give trustworthy quotations for the close of the mail, but the latest transactions reported had been Yakee Chop No. 3 Tls. 540 (at ex. 5s. 7d. = 25s. 6d.), Ting Changke's "Foong-yuen" Tls. 445 (= 21s.). The bulk of the transactions in Re-reels had been in common to fair grades at Tls. 440 to 450 (20s. 9d. to 22s. 7d.).

	1876-77.	1875-76.
Settlements for this mail ...	1,000 against	300
Total settlements to date ...	63,000 "	66,100
Stock, about ...	14,000 "	15,000

MISCELLANEOUS.

SAIGON.—Messrs. Kaltenbach, Engler, and Co.'s Market Report says:—Beyond a slight inquiry for Java the demand for Rice has been confined, during the period under review, to shipments hence to China. Chinese exporters showed at one time much eagerness to buy, but consequent upon a serious decline reported from Hong Kong they are now keeping back again and our market is drooping. Owing to the great number of steamers which recently visited our port, prices, however, did not thus far recede to any material extent; but we look for a further decline before long, inasmuch that tonnage shows a slight falling off, and supplies from the interior continue to be liberal. Cotton: Stocks are insignificant; quotations for cleaned being \$16 for No. 1 and \$9.50 for No. 2; uncleaned \$5.15 to 5.30 per picul. Fish: is likewise in very small supply and all descriptions are higher. Hides have also advanced, and are now quoted as follows:—Scoured Cow, \$18.50 to 19 per picul; unprepared ditto, \$14.25 per picul; and Buffalo \$7.90 per picul. Horns are quoted \$8.60 to 10.45 per picul, according to quality. Gamboge: \$50 to 51 per picul nominal. Pepper has receded to \$7.50 per picul.

BATAVIA.—Messrs. Peet and Co.'s Circular says:—Arrack: The bulk of what may be expected to be available this year has been contracted for at f.165 to f.170 per league of 133 imperial gallons. Coffee, Java: The market is bare. For delivery later on nothing is doing, planters preferring to wait until their produce is to market rather than submit now to a reduction on the figures current last month. The Government will sell publicly during the year 100,000 piculs. Padang: The usual quarterly auction will be held at Padang on the arrival of the steamer that left this for that port on the 24th March. The quantity to be disposed of is small, and will not exceed 18,000 to 19,000 piculs, of which 16,400 piculs were in store by last advices (17th March). The leaf disease is spreading, and it is now feared that the yield will be affected thereby, to the extent of 20 to 30 per cent. Refining Sugar: The market is bare. Business ex next crop has been on a but limited scale at f.17 to f.17.50 per picul, usual basis, according to time of delivery and assortment. Jacatra Sugars have been arranged for at f.14 per picul for colour No. 9. Grocery Sugars: Without transactions. Rice: There is absolutely no stock of good White Batavia. Rattans: Unchanged but scarce; Black Pepper: Sales at f.18 per picul. Nutmegs and Mace: Little or nothing doing. Cloves: A small parcel of Bencoolen changed hands at f.80 per picul. Cassia: Padang quotations f.15½ to f.16 per picul.

BANGKOK.—The Borneo Company's Circular says:—Rice: Mill cleaned Rice has been sold as low as \$1.45 per picul for Nassuan, and \$1.27½ per picul for Namuan, but our quotations at present are \$1.47½ and \$1.35 per picul (at ex. 4s. 2½d. per 5s. 10d. and 5s. 4½d. per cwt. in Gunnies f.o.b. without freight or insurance.) Prices of foreign grain in China show a marked rise, but with the present dearth and scarcity of tonnage there cannot be much change here. Native cleaned Cargo Rice is worth Tic. 54-5 per coyan = \$1.63-65 per picul in mats. White Rice has declined to Tic. 63-4 per coyan, for Straits quality (\$2.09-13 per picul in mats f.o.b.) and to Tic. 70-71 per coyan for best polished grain (\$2.33-6 per picul in Gunnies f.o.b.). Sugar is now arriving freely, and the price of Laconchaise Sugar D.S. No. 16 is Tic. 9½ per picul, No. 13 Tic. 8½ per picul (\$53.23 f.o.b.). Teelseed is very scarce at Tic. 93 per coyan for Namuan and Tic. 95, Suphan (\$3.51-61 per picul f.o.b.) and we are not likely to see any decline this season. Sticklac is in little demand at Tic. 18 per picul for Khorat good medium quality (\$14.50 f.o.b.), and only piculs 300 have found buyers during the month. Black Pepper: 300 piculs are offered at Tic. 12 per picul (\$9.00 f.o.b.) without finding buyers, and large supplies from the coast are shortly expected. Gamboge: 8 piculs mixed quality have been taken at Tic. 78 per picul, while Tic. 82 per picul would be paid for picked Pipe (\$56.74 f.o.b.). Buffalo Hides are very scarce and wanted at Tic. 11½ per picul for best (\$9.61 cleaned f.o.b.). Cow Hides also are in request, and common unpricked would fetch Tic. 20½ per picul (\$15.30 cleaned f.o.b.); Buffalo Horns have risen to Tic. 15½ per picul for 4 lbs. and Tic. 14 for 3 lbs. (9.23 f.o.b.), and are difficult to procure at these rates. Sapanwood is plentiful just now, and 7.8 pieces per picul could be purchased at Tic. 1½ per picul uncleaned (\$1.81 f.o.b.).

EXCHANGES, &c.

(For dates see first page.)
ON LONDON.

At	Bank Bills.	Credits.	Documentary.
Yokohama, 6 m.s.	4s. 2½d.	4s. 2½d.	4s. 2½d.
Shanghai	5s. 6½d.	5s. 7d.	5s. 7½d.
Canton	—	—	—
Hong Kong	3s. 10½d. to 3s. 10½d.	3s. 10½d.	3s. 1½d.
Macao	—	—	—
Singapore	4s. 0½d.	4s. 0½d.	4s. 0½d.
Penang	3s. 11½d.	4s. 0½d.	4s. 0½d.
Manila	4s. 4½d.	4s. 4½d.	4s. 5d.

MISCELLANEOUS.

	At Shanghai.	At Hong Kong.
Bills on India	Rs. 307 to 307½	Rs. 22½
" Hong Kong	26½ to 27½ dis.	—
Bar silver	11s. 11½ to 11s. 11½	9 prem. (nominal)
Mexican dollars	Tis. 74 0 0	1½ prem. (nominal)

HONG KONG SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank 30 per cent. prem.
Hong Kong Gas Company, \$75 per share.
Hong Kong and Whampoa Dock, 40 per cent. discount.
China Traders' Insurance Company, \$2,000 per share.
Hotel Shares, \$17½ per share.
Hong Kong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Company, 8 per cent. dis.
Hong Kong Fire Insurance Company, \$340 per share.
Union Insurance Society of Canton, — per share.
China Fire Insurance Company, \$150 per share.
Chinese Insurance Company, \$205 per share.
Chinese Imperial Loan, £105 10s. (exchange 4s. 1½d.).
Shanghai Steam Navigation Company, Tis. 100 per share.

SINGAPORE SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Tanjong Pagar Dock Shares (\$100 paid), \$130.
New Harbour Dock Company (\$100 paid), par.
Singapore Gas Company (£5 paid), par.
Galena Mining Company (\$5 paid), \$30.
Singapore Steamship Company (Limited), par.

* * * The latest telegrams report the rate for six months' bank bills at Singapore 4s. 0½d., at Hong Kong 3s. 11½d., at Shanghai 5s. 5½d.

EXPORT OF TEA AND SILK—SEASON 1876-77.
TO GREAT BRITAIN.

Date.	TEA.					SILK
	From Shanghai and Hankow	From Foo-chow.	From Amoy.	From Canton, Macao, &c.	Total lbs.	Total Bales and Cases.
From June 1, 1876, to Mar. 14, 1877	83857781	59317139	2929143	18999916	165082585	43651
From June 1, 1875, to Mar. 14, 1876	74953456	59318379	2031849	19756811	155190191	34045

TO THE CONTINENT.

From June 1, 1876, to Mar. 14, 1877	5640926	52269
Do. do. 1875, to Mar. 14, 1876	10472301	47311

TO UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

From June 1, 1876, to Mar. 14, 1877	45708817	6110
Do. do. 1875, to Mar. 14, 1876	5169517	8903

TO AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND.

From June 1, 1876, to Mar. 14, 1877	16,618,97
Do. do. 1875, to Mar. 14, 1876	16,166,325

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

From	Tea—lbs.	Silk, bales	From	Tea—lbs.	Silk, bales
1813 to 1844	51,022,600	18,690	1864 to 1865	131,336,870	32,313
1815 to 1846	57,334,200	22,144	1865 to 1866	118,333,042	62,890
1850 to 1851	63,972,000	61,283	1866 to 1867	118,423,290	50,052
1853 to 1854	77,327,800	50,181	1867 to 1868	116,890,430	57,449
1855 to 1856	92,210,300	68,315	1868 to 1869	142,749,804	70,917
1857 to 1858	76,990,355	83,134	1869 to 1870	139,740,193	63,807
1858 to 1859	65,789,792	61,169	1870 to 1871	131,999,850	51,329
1859 to 1860	85,560,452	70,644	1871 to 1872	149,774,395	54,389
1860 to 1861	90,066,160	79,199	1872 to 1873	151,869,262	57,263
1861 to 1862	109,854,040	72,887	1873 to 1874	144,588,621	47,373
1862 to 1863	121,278,580	46,693	1874 to 1875	161,961,077	85,169
1863 to 1864	117,465,586	—	1875 to 1876	166,318,227	87,183

TEA SEASON 1876-7.

(Settlements at Shanghai from June 1, 1876, to Feb. 28, 1877.)

	Black.		Green.	
	Chests.	4-Chests.	Boxes.	4-Boxes.
Maitland and Co.	16,300	44,900	52,800	58,000
Reid, Evans, and Co.	13,460	26,100	—	1,958
Reiss and Co.	7,981	30,381	—	—
Adamson, Bell, and Co.	11,600	22,800	25,600	32,000
Drysdale, Ringer, and Co.	4,000	18,000	—	9,600
Birley, Worthington, and Co.	5,000	15,000	1,080	29,100
Hyde and Hertz	4,000	14,000	1,800	28,000
Rothwell, Thomas	2,000	15,000	—	—
Butterfield and Swire	3,570	11,400	1,000	30,000
Lucas and Co.	2,400	11,400	—	1,800
Olyphant and Co.	—	11,600	2,760	12,725
Cumine and Co.	2,296	9,186	—	427
Wade, H. T.	2,115	8,026	—	100
Ludewald, Schiefel, and Co.	1,500	8,536	147	—
Nichol, R.	881	8,871	—	—
Shaw, Ripley, and Co.	1,360	7,350	—	—
Dickinson and Co.	1,144	6,600	—	—
Little and Co.	966	7,600	3,000	10,913
Forster and Co., Jno.	1,195	5,600	—	3,497
Gibb, Livingston, and Co.	350	7,200	—	8,739
W. Pustau and Co.	947	5,598	—	—
Gilman and Co.	913	5,702	—	10,609
Turner and Co.	386	5,874	—	393
Fearon and Co.	220	5,051	9,025	25,164
Overbeck and Co.	—	5,179	—	—
Jardine, Matheson, and Co.	—	3,967	—	26,963
Holliday, Wise, and Co.	—	2,376	—	—
Russell and Co.	—	1,271	—	6,732
Fogg and Co.	—	1,267	3,932	3,371
Bovet Bros.	259	250	868	5,206
Heard and Co.	—	632	—	—
Chatwen, Mackintosh, and Co.	—	643	—	4,997
Siemssen and Co.	—	632	—	—
Frazer and Co.	—	357	2,534	14,653
Findley, Jno.	—	230	—	—

The Messageries Maritimes steamer *Anadyr*, with the present inward mail, arrived at Marseilles at eight p.m. on the 25th inst. She brings 150 passengers and a general cargo, including 738 bales of silk, 6,499 packages of tea, 4,229 bags sugar, 100 cases curios, and 605 packages of sundries; also specie to the value of £65,175 for London, which part of her cargo will be forwarded to its destination per company's steamer *Indus*, due in London on or about the 7th May. The P. and O. Company's steamer *Poonah*, with the heavy portion of last inward mail, left Gibraltar on the 26th inst. for Southampton.

EXPORTS FROM SINGAPORE TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Total to March 21, 1877.	First two months of 1876.	First two months of 1875.	First two months of 1874.
Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Gambier ...	113,922	69,891	46,280	46,063
Tin ...	11,515	3,569	7,979	5,688
Sago Flour ...	24,116	40,335	25,666	28,077
Pearl Sago ...	16,443	8,745	5,504	8,463
Black Pepper ...	40,109	35,261	22,072	2,644
White Pepper ...	10,418	5,615	3,122	3,389
Gutta Percha ...	4,850	3,682	2,885	2,638
Coffee ...	2,443	5,315	14	2,812
Hides ...	9,099	3,937	2,512	4,143
Borneo Rubber ...	1,574	1,380	659	1,293
Horns ...	2,033	1,063	368	410
Gum Copal ...	1,371	424	1,247	576
Gum Benjamin ...	990	527	14	338
Sticklac ...	255	312	—	1,293
Mother o' Pearl Shells ...	588	694	389	327
Tapioca ...	16,512	10,206	6,903	5,584
Gamboge ...	84	27	74	58

EXPORTS FROM PENANG TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Total to Mar. 24, 1877.	Total to Mar. 24, 1876.
Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Tin ...	11,918	35,330
Sugar ...	41,038	16,781
Black Pepper ...	4,908	7,231
White Pepper ...	1,555	841
Cloves ...	194	17
Tobacco ...	875	3,099
Tapioca ...	5,406	2,650
Hides ...	1,327	1,763
Horns ...	126	187
India-rubber ...	60	114
Mace ...	94	35
Nutmegs ...	95	211
Rattans ...	2,028	4,199

TELEGRAMS FROM THE FAR EAST.

SHANGHAI MARKET REPORT.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

SHANGHAI, APRIL 21.—Manchester Goods dull; Grey Shirtings, 8½ lbs., Tls. 1.8.8. Silk season closed.

HONG KONG MARKET REPORT.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

HONG KONG, APRIL 21.—Manchester Goods dull. Cotton Yarn (water twist) 16-24, \$99; Grey Shirtings, 8½ lbs., \$2.32. Fair medium Bengal Cotton, \$13. Total export of Tea to date 164,750,000 lbs.

SINGAPORE MARKET REPORT.

SINGAPORE, APRIL 25.—Gambier, \$4.60. Black Pepper, \$8.05; White, \$14. Tin, \$19.82½. Mule Twist, 40's, \$100. Grey Shirtings, 8½ lbs., \$1.65; 7 lbs., \$1.40. T-Cloths, 6 lbs., \$1.20; 7 lbs., \$1.30.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

At YOKOHAMA.—From New York, April 21, Haze.
At SHANGHAI.—From London, April 21, Fleurs Castle (str.); 25, Gleneagles (str.); from Liverpool, 25, Anchises (str.).

At HONG KONG.—From London, March 15, Palestine; 16, Lima; 19, Loudon Castle; April 20, Gleneagles (str.); 24, Braemar Castle, (str.); from Liverpool, 21, Anchises (str.); from Cardiff, 23, Bertha (str.); from Hamburg, 21, Feronia (str.); from Newcastle, N.S.W., March 18, Anna; 20, Ellida; April 20, Lalla Rookh; from Sydney, March 21, Hankow (str.).

At BANGKOK.—From Hamburg, March 6, Ceres.

At SINGAPORE.—From Cardiff, March 24, Isoluna; 25, Imbros (str.), James Wishart; 28, Margot; 29, Quarta (str.); from Sunderland, 27, Canmore; April 18, Centaur; from Liverpool, 25, Gloria (str.); from London, 21, Argentino (str.), Stad Amsterdam (str.); from Cardiff, 10, Gleneuse; from Rotterdam, 25, Windsbrandt.

DEPARTURES.

From YOKOHAMA.—None.

From SHANGHAI.—None.

From HONG KONG.—For London, March 19, Star of China; for Portland, 21, Edward James; for Melbourne and Sydney, 21, Spirit of the Age.

From MANILA.—For the Channel, f.o., April 19, Omha.

From SAIGON.—For Rio de Janeiro, March 18, Maris Stella.

From BANGKOK.—For Marseilles, Feb. 11, East Lomond; 23, Asia Mineure.

From SINGAPORE.—For Marseilles, March 24, Staut; for New York, 28, Star of the East; for Boston, 28, Moltke; for London, April 12, Ettrickdale.

SHIPPING POSTSCRIPT.

ARRIVALS NOT IN THE TABLES.—April 7, at Boston, from Singapore, Star of the South; 10, at San Francisco, from Hong Kong, Antioch; 22, from Java, Cape Finisterre; 24, at London, from Amoy, Madagascar (str.); 25, off Holyhead, from Manila, Frederick; off Scilly, from Swatow, Hamburg; off Isle of Wight, from Batavia, for Amsterdam, Henriette Adriana; 26, at Queenstown, from Samarang, Jessie

Jamieson; 27, at Flushing, from Batavia, Maria and Elizabeth; April 24, at Hamburg, from Rangoon, Atalanta (str.); 25, Ymuiden, from Sourabaya, William Melhuish; off ditto, from Passaroeng, Aurora; at Texel, from Samarang, Veritas; 26, passed Dungeness, from Rangoon, for Nieuwe Diep, Madeline (str.); 27, at Liverpool, from Singapore, Nola; 28, off Falmouth, from Manila, Norden (str.).

DEPARTURES.—April 9, from San Francisco, for Manila, Harriet N. Carlton; 10, for Singapore, Connaught Ranger; 12, for Manila, South American; 19, from Greenock, for Rangoon, Duchra; 21, from Cadiz, for Manila, Chica; 22, from Marseilles, for Shanghai, Amazone (str.); 23, from Shields, for Batavia, Clea; 25, from Cardiff, for Java, Trinidad; from London, for Hiozo, Eme; 26, for Penang, &c., Nankin (str.); 25, off Dungeness, from Nieuwe Diep, for Batavia, Batavia (str.); 26, from Amsterdam, Jacob Roggeveen; from Flushing, for Batavia, Minister Franses v.d. Putte; 27, from Penarth, for Singapore, Stella Maria; for Java, J. W. Oliver.

PASSED SUEZ CANAL.—April 22, from Rangoon, for Flensburg, Quinta.

SPOKEN.—Forward Ho, London to Shanghai, March 12, 27 S., 32 W.; Atma, Hong Kong to London, April 21, 48 N., 13 W.; Wemyss Castle, London to Penang, April 11, 11 N., 26 W.; Sierra Madrona, Rangoon to Liverpool, March 12, 2 N., 91 E.; Gratitude, Rangoon to Liverpool, February 1, 37 S., 36 W.; Sabina, New York to Anjer, April 11, 30 N., 37 W.; Osaka, London to Hong Kong, March 23rd, 4 N., 21 W.; Chalmette, Hong Kong to London, April 5th, 19 N., 25 W.; Parana, Hong Kong to Hamburg, April 5th.

CASUALTIES.—Mauritius, March 30th, the Cumberland, from Maulmain to Falmouth, with teak, put in here March 7th, for repairs; she experienced a cyclone on 18th and 19th February in lat. 18 S., long 80 E.; lost main and mizentopmasts, jibboom and sails attached, also part of bulwarks and stanchions; the vessel will not discharge Rangoon, April 24, 12.30 P.M., Adriana, with timber, has put back leaky will discharge and repair.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Malta, April 24, passed, Tenasserim (str.), from Glasgow, for Rangoon; 27, Lufra (str.), from Akyab; Mauritius, April 27, arrived, Cumberland, from Maulmain, for Channel; Honolulu, March 13, sailed, Mary Whitridge, from San Francisco for Hong Kong; Gibraltar, April 27, arrived, Chelydra (str.), from Bassin, for Hamburg; 26, passed, Langshaw (str.), from Rangoon, to Liverpool; Malta, April 28, off, Anchises (str.), from China.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

D'OVERBROCK.—On the 18th April, at Stuttgart, Germany, the Baroness d'Overbeck, of a son.

FAULDS.—On the 24th reb., at Tokio, Mrs. Henry Faulds, of a son.

GIBBS.—On the 21st April, at Campbell House, Bromley, Kent, the wife of John Gibbs, of a daughter.

HAWKE.—On the 23rd April, at Camden Villa, Cambridge-road, Gunnersbury, the wife of W. H. Hawke, of a son.

INNES.—On the 20th April, at Ballifeary, Inverness, the wife of Charles Innes, of a daughter.

RODYK.—On the 21st March, at Banda Illier, Malacca, the wife of Mr. Wm. Alex. Rodyk, of a son.

SWABY.—On the 21st February, at Osaka, the wife of L. Swaby, of a daughter.

TOWELL.—On the 14th March, at Shanghai, the wife of Marcus Edwin Towell, of a son.

VICKERS.—On the 21st April, at Birmoor House, Thicket-road, Penge, the wife of James Muschamp Vickers, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

COULLIE.—BRODIE.—On the 19th April, at 15, Rutland-square, Edinburgh, by the Rev. Edward A. Thomson, Free St. Stephen's, assisted by the Rev. David Macleod, M.A., Dundee the Rev. James Coullie, B.D., Minister of Penicuik, to Maggie Alier, daughter of the late Kenneth Sutherland Brodie, of Bagonbarry, Myensing, Bengal.

GRAY.—GUTHRIE.—On the 26th April, at All Saint's, Knightsbridge, by the Rev. John Blomfield, vicar, Charles William Gray, late 35th K.O.B., to Susan Helen, eldest daughter of James Guthrie, 18, Ennismore-gardens, London, formerly of Singapore.

DEATHS.

EDWARDS.—On the 16th April, at Forest Hill, Mary Ann Edwards, relict of the late William Edwards, of Stationers'-hall court, aged 74 years.

GASKELL.—On the 21st April, in Manchester-street, W., Mary, youngest daughter of the late William Gaskell.

GILMOUR.—On the 19th April, at Beiford Lodge, Putney-hill, Surrey, Hugh Gilmour.

LAURIE.—On the 21st April, at his town residence, Peter Northall Laurie, of 9, Park crescent, N.W., and Paxhill-park, Linfield, Sussex, aged 63.

THE RE-ORGANISATION OF PERAK.

IN reply to a series of not inopportune questions put by Sir CHARLES DILKE on Thursday last, Mr. LOWTHER has stated that Rajah MUDA YUSUF, who has all along been friendly to the British Government, and who is described as "possessing activity and energy quite peculiar in a Malay," will shortly be installed as the future Sultan of Perak. Sultan ABDULLAH is to be deported from Singapore, and will probably therefore end his days at one of our Government Stations in India; while Sultan ISMAIL is to be interned at Johore, under the supervision of our tried friend the Maharajah. Another question asked by Sir CHARLES DILKE, which, however, has not been reported in any newspaper, was whether some time subsequent to Mr. BIRCH's appointment the Malay chiefs at Perak sent a deputation to Singapore to ask for that gentleman's removal, at the same time giving reasons for that course. To this inquiry Mr. LOWTHER made no reply, and as Mr. BIRCH has now gone far beyond the reach of any hostile deputations, there was perhaps no need to press the subject. We believe that as a fact some such deputation did take place, but even if it made out any case against Mr. BIRCH, which is

far from having been shown, the non-removal of that officer was the fault of the Singapore authorities, supposing it to have been anybody's fault. Mr. BIRCH ought not to have been treacherously murdered for the crime of not removing himself. With respect to Maharajah LELA, we are glad to learn from Mr. LOWTHER'S statement that there is no foundation for a rumour, said to have been sent home from Singapore, that before the Maharajah was arrested a promise was made to him that if he gave himself up his life should be safe. At the same time every one must regret that such a rumour should ever have got abroad at all, for though untrue the natives in the Malay States may still credit the story, and it is a most serious obstacle to the renewal of friendly feeling if our Government is believed to have been guilty of a breach of faith. Further papers, both with regard to the affairs of the Malay States generally, and to the trial of the Maharajah LELA, are shortly to be presented to Parliament; and pending their production it would be impossible to pronounce any satisfactory judgment either upon recent events, or upon the out-look for the future. All we know at present about the Maharajah LELA'S trial and execution is, that he was tried and condemned by native law, that facilities were afforded him for his defence, that Raja MUDA YUSUF and another chief presided at the trial, and that Messrs. MAXWELL and J. G. DAVIDSON watched the proceedings as assessors on behalf of the British Government. We cannot, however, close this paragraph without alluding to one reflection which we feel sure must be stirring in many minds. An English officer was murdered at his post and sharp vengeance has been taken upon all—no matter what their rank—who had a hand in the deed. But that officer—at the time he fell—was publishing a proclamation calculated to provoke enmity among the Malays, and one which would never have been sanctioned by the authorities at home had they but known of it in time. MARGARY also was treacherously slain when discharging his official duties, and in MARGARY'S case there had been nothing in the way of previous provocation. Why is MARGARY'S blood still crying out for vengeance unheeded?

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE JUDICIAL STAFF IN THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

(Apr. 23rd.) Mr. A. M'ARTHUR asked the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies whether the attention of Her Majesty's Government had been called to the insufficiency of the judicial staff in the Straits Settlements, and whether there was any intention to meet the wishes of the community by the appointment of an additional judge.

Mr. LOWTHER said the attention of the Government had been directed to the alleged insufficiency of the judicial staff in the Straits Settlements, but it was occasioned by the temporary absence, on leave, of the Chief Justice. A second judge had been appointed, and Her Majesty's Government have directed that power shall be taken to appoint a third judge of the Supreme Court, if such a course should be found necessary; but before deciding upon incurring this additional expenditure we are awaiting fuller information as to the possibility of so rearranging the business as to relieve the Supreme Court of much that is now unnecessarily thrown upon it, and petty debt cases below a specified amount have been already removed from that tribunal.

PERAK.

(26th.) Sir C. DILKE asked the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies whether it was true, as reported in the *London and China Telegraph* of the 16th inst., that Sultan Ysoof was to be installed at Perak, and that Sultans Ismail and Abdullah were to be deported from that country; whether Sultan Ysoof was the same person as Raja Muda Yusuf, referred to by Sir William Jervois, on October 29, 1875, as "heir presumptive to the throne at Perak," as "possessing activity and energy quite peculiar in a Malay," and also as having "expressed a desire to live under British rule;" and whether any further papers relating to the affairs of the Malay States would shortly be presented to Parliament. The hon. baronet further asked whether it was true the Maharajah Lelah had been executed in Perak on a charge of being concerned in the murder of Mr. Birch; whether there was any kind of foundation for a rumour current at Singapore that before the Maharajah was arrested a promise was made to him that if he surrendered his life should be safe; whether he was provided with legal means of defence; under what law he was tried, and what was the nature of the tribunal by which he was condemned; and whether Her Majesty's Government would lay before Parliament a report of the trial.

Mr. LOWTHER said it was quite true, as reported, that arrangements were being made for the deportation of Sultan Abdullah from Perak to another portion of Her Majesty's dominions, that Sultan Ismail had also been assigned a residence under supervision. Authority would meanwhile be exercised by Sultan Ysoof, who was the person referred to in October, 1875, by Sir W. Jervois, as heir presumptive to the throne of Perak, as possessing peculiar energy and activity, and as having expressed a desire to live under British rule. Further papers in relation to the Malay States would shortly be laid before Parliament. It was

also quite true that the Maharajah Lelah had lately been convicted and executed upon a charge of complicity in the murder of Mr. Birch. There was no foundation for the rumour that before the Maharajah was arrested a promise was made to him that if he surrendered his life should be safe. Means of legal defence were supplied to the Maharajah by Sir William Jervois in the shape of a Queen's counsel, by whom the prisoner was ably defended.

CEYLON.

Mr. Alderman M'Arthur proposes to call the attention of the House of Commons on the 1st of May to the unsatisfactory state of affairs in the island of Ceylon in relation to ecclesiastical endowments; and to move, "That, as the members of the Anglican and Presbyterian Churches in Ceylon constitute a small part of the population, and the great majority of the inhabitants are Buddhists, Hindus, and Mohammedans, this House is of opinion that the payment out of the revenues of the colony of annual subsidies to the ministers of those Churches inflicts great injustice and occasions serious discontent, and ought therefore to be discontinued."

THE HONG KONG OPIUM FARM.

Dr. Dudgeon, in a letter to the *N.B. Daily Mail*, attacks the system of granting licenses for the sale of prepared opium in force in Hong Kong. He states that in 1858 an ordinance was passed making the sale of crude opium entirely free and that of prepared opium a strict monopoly. The highest tender offered was \$33,960, which was accepted. Our Government officers were in the public paper of that day accused of taking bribes of the Chinese, and it would appear that opium had poisoned the morality of both Chinese and Europeans. In 1861 the revenue from opium reached £12,412. In 1869 attached to the license were clauses regulating the thickness of walls, the construction of chimney breasts, and the formation of hoods of unflammable material in the opium furnaces and boiling-houses. In this year the revenue reached \$108,660, and the Registrar-General remarks, "A large business has been done in prepared opium, the export to Australia and California reaching an aggregate of about Tls. 2,562,000 in weight, amounting in value to \$1,950,000. In Hong Kong about Tls. 648,000 weight was purchased." In 1872 a Commission was appointed to inquire into the working of the monopoly. The object in view was apparently simply to ascertain whether a sufficient amount was paid by the monopolists towards the colonial revenue. The Commissioners, were, however, unable to ascertain the precise amount of opium boiled, consumed in Hong Kong and exported from the island, but they suggest that the Government take the monopoly into its own hand and establish one or more boiling establishments, or that they extend the monopoly for periods of three years, or that it be put up to public auction. At the present time the annual revenue is \$125,500, and there are seventy-eight licensed shops. Dr. Dudgeon concludes his letter as follows:—"This model colony of ours—a beacon of civilisation to the benighted Chinese, only distant from the mainland of China about a rifle shot—and destined to give proof of our immense superiority, recognised only very recently the three vices to which the Chinese are specially addicted, viz., gambling, opium-smoking and the social evil. These are regulated by our Colonial Government, carried on in houses conspicuously marked as being under Government licence, and all contributing more or less toward the Colonial revenue. The first of the foul triad happily now no longer exists. Strong pressure from our countrymen in the colony itself and Britons in China generally, compelled our home Government to abandon this source of revenue. The gambling gains, I believe, still lie at Hong Kong, no one daring to touch the dirty money. The other two evils are still under the direct patronage of the Government. Nothing but the most lamentable ignorance of the Chinese mind could have led the Colonial authorities to this direct contradiction of all that the Chinese held to be sacred duty on the part of their rulers."

Nabal and Military.

The troopship *Orontes*, Captain E. H. Seymour, arrived at Portsmouth on the 24th inst. with the 10th Regiment and a number of military invalids and time-expired men from the Straits Settlements, Singapore, the Mauritius, and Natal.

Rear-Admiral John Corbett, C.B., who has been selected for the command of the East Indies Station, entered the navy in 1836. As Midshipman he served in the *Carysfort* throughout the operations of 1840 on the coast of Syria, including the bombardment of St. Jean d'Acre and the blockade of Alexandria, for which he received the war medal with clasp and the Turkish medal. Passing his examination in June, 1842, he was appointed in 1843 to the *Queen*, in the Mediterranean. He was promoted to Lieutenant May 4, 1846, being next appointed in July, 1847, to the *Vengeance*. After obtaining his Commander's commission, February, 1852, he served some time as Admiralty agent on board a contract mail vessel, and while acting as such received injuries for which he is now in receipt of a special pension. In 1854 Commander Corbett was appointed to the *Wolverene* on the North American and West Indian Station, and in July, 1856, to the *Inflexible*, which he commanded with distinction in the Canton River against the Chinese in 1857, and was promoted to Captain for his services in the war. Since that time he has commanded the *Scout* in the East Indies and China, and was last employed in command of the *Britannia*, training-ship, from September, 1867, to August, 1871. Rear-Admiral Corbett was appointed a C.B. in June, 1869, and was Naval Aide-de-Camp to Her Majesty from April, 1870, until promoted to flag rank.

A pension of £120 per annum has been awarded by the Admiralty to Mr. Whillier, Paymaster-in-Chief, in consideration of injuries received by him in the Service.

It is reported that all military officers on leave have been requested to rejoin their regiments.

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TRADE MONOPOLIES IN JAPAN.

WE learn that advices have been received from a reliable authority that a matter of considerable importance in connection with trade in Japan, and which has already attracted attention, is likely to be the subject of public if not official notice in that country. It appears that, by a somewhat complicated arrangement, the Japanese Government have contrived to establish a complete monopoly of the export trade in rice. The Government receive the rice from the farmers, who send it to them in payment of the taxes, and the authorities are able to obtain it almost at any price they choose to give. This advantage in the purchase—if purchase it can properly be called—is worked by a select clique of officials to their own especial benefit. In order to put a face on the matter, they employ a foreigner to sell the rice; and thus there is practically only one foreign house able to export rice from the country. Whether a trade of this character can, properly speaking, be looked upon as legal is open to question, but there can certainly be no doubt that it is in every way undesirable and impolitic, as tending to check legitimate enterprise, without even giving any substantial benefit to the Government properly speaking. We trust that attention may be directed to the matter; and that should the facts prove as we have every reason to believe they are, some representations may be made on the subject to the Japanese authorities. No doubt the Government of Japan is at liberty to do what it will with its own; but it is at least scarcely equitable that when it has conceded to foreign nations the right of free trade in theory it should practically render that concession abortive in respect to one of the most important staples, by stepping in and, by means of such facilities as only a Government can possess, conducting the trade itself. We make no doubt that if the subject be placed in this light before the Japanese authorities they will perceive the justice of introducing some change in the present system. The duty of remedying this evil appears to us to lie especially with the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, and we trust that it will take the matter up, and that greater success may attend its efforts in this than, if we may take the Report of the Chamber for 1876, just to hand, as a guide, seems to have rewarded its exertions in the matter of "Drawbacks," "Hatoba accommodation," "Protests against passports," and the "Limits of the port," in respect to all which questions it scarcely seems to have pushed matters quite so energetically as might be wished. We are fully aware of the difficulty of keeping up the necessary energy in public bodies in places in the East; but without some real efforts it is quite hopeless for them to expect to carry measures, however necessary and just they may be, to a successful issue.

BANKING WITH INDIA AND CHINA.

The reports for the year 1876 of the various banks connected with the Far East and the speeches made by the Chairmen in introducing them at the meetings recently held are of much value, as presenting different views as to the manner in which it is desirable that banking operations should be conducted during times when the course of exchange is of a doubtful and varying character. The feature

of the year 1876 as respects exchange with India and China has been the great and rapid fluctuations to which the rate has been subject. This has been the cause alike of the profits and of the losses; although, with some inconsistency, the point has been touched upon mainly only so far as it is explanatory of the latter. Fluctuations in exchange are obviously the very atmosphere in which banks whose transactions consist largely in exchange operations must live; and in itself, therefore, a fluctuating exchange market does not give cause for regret, nor would it be greatly to the interest of those concerned, if there were prospects of an entire cessation of variations similar to those which occurred last year. At the same time it is beyond question that in conducting operations in times when the course of the market is doubtful, greater skill and greater care are required than under normal circumstances; and consequently little blame can be attached to those who have made errors of judgment during the period under notice. It would, however, be a mistake to imagine that as a rule success in banking operations under circumstances such as those of last year is to be secured by very large operations based upon some definite and apparently far-seeing calculation. In such operations much is staked on either side. If they succeed they show very large profits, but, on the other hand, if they fail, they are productive of considerable losses. The right policy in times when exchanges are subject to rapid fluctuations is to be constantly on the alert and to operate moderately upon each successive phase of the markets. Without making comparisons, which might be invidious, we may safely say, speaking generally, that during the past year success has attended banking operations with India and China precisely in proportion as this policy has been adopted, and losses have ensued so far as it has been overlooked. The most obvious lesson which the history of the past year's banking operations teaches is no doubt that of caution and prudence; but these qualities even need scarcely be carried to the length of abstaining from all operations in which any risk whatever is involved. By such a plan dangers may no doubt be avoided, but opportunities are also needlessly lost. The wisest course to pursue is, if we may borrow the simile, not to stay in port, because a fair breeze cannot be depended upon; but, knowing that the wind may change, to avoid carrying too much sail and to be ready to tack so soon as it is necessary to do so. Carefully wrought out abstract theories founded upon one or two broad facts often become under such circumstances a very tempting basis of action; but too frequently before the time has come for these causes to bring about the results anticipated counter causes, which entirely neutralise them, have arisen. These are the obvious lessons which are taught by the *comptes rendus* of banking operations with the East, which have been given to the public during the past fortnight. On the whole, notwithstanding some disappointments, it is clear that there is every cause to look hopefully on the future, and that we have good reason to believe that the Indian and China banks will increase in favour with the public as a means of investment. The business which they conduct is becoming more and more consolidated; and now that there is less fear than before of any interruption of telegraphic communication, there is little reason to apprehend any of the severe losses which had occasionally to be faced in former times.

THE recent reversal of the decision in the Admiralty Court in the case of the *Perana* steamer, in regard to which a claim was made for compensation for loss of market consequent upon undue delay of the steamer on the voyage [from Manila], is of much importance in respect to sales for arrival. The Judge of the Admiralty Court awarded damages, considering that the depreciation in the value of the goods was the natural consequence of the carriers' delay; but the Court of Appeal have reversed this decision, holding that it was not certain that the goods could have been sold immediately after they arrived; while the sale of goods "to arrive" is an ordinary mercantile transaction. This decision, if it be taken as a precedent, establishes that claim for loss of market consequent on undue delay of a vessel on the voyage can only be made in the event of the goods having been sold for arrival. It might still be

a question how the matter would stand in cases where it might be shown to be impossible to effect a sale for arrival at all.

SOME attention has been drawn to recent affairs in the Straits. At a meeting held on the 20th inst. of the Aborigines' Protection Society, Sir P. BENSON MAXWELL in the chair, the subject of the execution, by British authority, of the Maharajah LELA, for alleged complicity in the murder of the late Mr. BIRCH, was taken into consideration. The matter, however, was deferred pending an official answer to questions which Sir CHARLES DILKE had given notice of his intention to put, with regard both to the execution of the Maharajah LELA and the deportation of the Sultans ISMAIL and ABDULLAH from Perak, which will be found in another column. The attention of the Secretary of State for the Colonies has also been called to the position of the Judges in the Straits Settlements, and the assurance given is satisfactory, but not the cost at which the efficiency is to be obtained.

WE understand that the stay in England of Sir JAMES LONGDEN, the Governor designate of Ceylon, will be somewhat longer than was anticipated. He will probably leave England about the end of July, and would in that case arrive in Ceylon early in September next. An error has been made in the statement which appeared in the papers here, to the effect that Captain A. COLLINS, of the 57th Regiment, had been nominated Aide-de-Camp to Sir JAMES, no appointment as yet having been made to that post.

WE note that Comte de ROCHECHOUART, who was formerly First Secretary of the French Legation and Chargé d'Affaires at Peking, has been appointed Agent and Consul General for France at Belgrade. We trust that in due time Comte de ROCHECHOUART will be selected for the post of Minister in China.

THE *Gazette* notifies that the QUEEN has approved the appointments of Mr. HANS KIOER as Danish Consul at Hong Kong, of Mr. ARTHUR LANEN as French Consul at Hong Kong, and of Mr. EDMAND RINN as French Consul at Singapore.

THE reduced scale of postal rates to Ceylon, the Straits Settlements, China, and other places in the Far East, which recently came in force, will be applied to Java and the Philippine Islands on May 1, and to Japan on June 1.

A TELEGRAM announces that H.E. POPE-HENNESSY, the new Governor of Hong Kong, arrived out on the 22nd inst.

NATIONAL BANK OF INDIA.

The ordinary general meeting of shareholders in the above Bank took place at the City Terminus Hotel on the 23rd inst.; R. O. Campbell, Esq., in the chair.

The report and accounts were taken as read, and the Chairman, in proposing their adoption, said the directors fully felt the disappointment which the shareholders would experience from the present accounts; but their unsatisfactory nature resulted from exceptional circumstances. At the same time, they were able to declare their usual dividend of 6 per cent., but they were not able to make any increase of the reserve fund. He then proceeded to set forth the causes which led to the absorption of the profits which the Bank had earned during the early part of the year, of which he said the chief one was the unprecedented fluctuations in gold and silver. Alluding to the fact that silver and council bills were the principal means of making remittances to establish the just balance of trade with India, he said that during the year 1876 as much as £13,000,000 had been drawn in council bills, and the amount of silver shipped had been upwards of £11,000,000, the two items thus being together upwards of £24,000,000. The price of silver had fluctuated from 58½d. per oz. down to 46½d. per oz., and up again to 58½d., the variation being as much as 26 per cent. from the highest to the lowest point. It might be said that a period of great fluctuation was a bank's opportunity, and if they could forecast the course of such fluctuations no doubt this would be the fact. Unfortunately, they were not regulated solely by the exigencies of trade, and it would be impossible to know how matters were drifting so long as the question was mainly regulated by the financiers of Germany, America, England, and, he might add, France. Notwithstanding the difficulties and perplexities with which they had to deal, the Indian Branches had paid fairly well during the latter part of the year. The China operations had been the weak point, and it was there that the chief loss had arisen, in consequence of mistaken views as to the probable course of exchange; and from the fact also of wire communication having been interrupted. The Chairman, in alluding to this portion of the subject, laid stress upon the fact

that he did not wish to lay any undue responsibility on the Bank's agents in China. They had been in a critical position, and had acted to the best of their judgment; but unfortunately they had made mistakes. It was not to be forgotten that if the operations had been successful the Board would have had the credit of them, and they did not therefore wish in any way to shirk responsibility as to what had occurred. He went on to give a history of the low rates of exchange in China at the commencement of the year, and the subsequent great advance consequent upon the failure of the European silk crop. The market had been very dragging at the first part of the year, and the agents in China, thinking that exchange was certain to rule low during the whole year, had bought bills largely. At that time large sums were diverted from China to India, and this, followed shortly by the news of the failure of the European crop of silk, caused the rates of exchange again to rise; while the difficulty was further increased by the fact that the price of silver and of rupee bills again rose here, council bills going back as rapidly as they had before fallen. On the top of all this came the unfortunate break down in the telegraph. One despatch was sent to Shanghai, pointing out the probability of a rise in silver; but it was only received there a fortnight after it had been sent. With regard to the balance-sheet, the Chairman pointed out that it was made for the year, and that in future half yearly statements would not be made. He endorsed the views of the chairman of the Mercantile Bank as to the inadvisability of that system. New premises had been secured for the Bank in Threadneedle-street, not, in the speaker's opinion, before they were needed, as at present the business was conducted as it were on the rungs of a ladder. In conclusion, he stated that the business this year had been satisfactory up to the present, and unless some untoward event arose, they hoped it would result in a good dividend.

In reply to a question put by one of the shareholders as to the reason why the Bank had not been registered on the Stock Exchange, it being understood that one of the chief reasons for transferring the head office from Calcutta was to secure this end, the Chairman said that this was impracticable, as at least one-third of the shares of the Company would have to be owned here.

Some exception was taken by one of the shareholders to the fact that the statement of accounts did not give the items of receipts and expenditure in detail, but an amendment which he proposed on the subject was not seconded.

The motion that the report and accounts be adopted was then put and passed unanimously, and the retiring directors and auditors having been re-elected, the meeting separated with the usual compliment to the chair.

THE SINGAPORE GAS COMPANY.

The annual general meeting of the shareholders in the above company took place at the Terminus Hotel on the 24th inst.; H. P. Stephenson, Esq., in the chair.

The notice convening the meeting having been read by the Secretary, the Chairman, in proposing the adoption of the report and accounts stated that on comparing the balance-sheet with that of the corresponding half-year, viz., to December, 1875, he found the following on the debtor side:—Share capital has increased by £6,392, debenture bonds had decreased £2,210, and the profit was £664 more. On the creditor side cash at bankers, bills receivable, &c., had increased £1,482, and stock had increased £3,000, there being a larger stock of coals. On the debtor side of profit and loss coal was £322 less, whilst on the creditor side gas and meter rent had increased £494, and products, &c., had increased £212, resulting in an increased profit of £664, including the balance carried forward.

The motion to adopt the report and accounts was seconded by Mr. R. S. Foreman, and carried unanimously.

It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. F. W. Collard, and carried unanimously—"That a dividend be declared to the preference and ordinary shareholders at the rate of 7½ per cent. per annum, less income-tax, in both cases on amounts paid up on their shares from the respective dates of payment to December 31, 1876, such dividends to become payable on May 21 next."

It was proposed by Mr. R. Rice, seconded by Mr. H. W. Smith, and carried unanimously, that Mr. Henry Palfrey Stephenson and Mr. Alexander Malcolm Nicol be re-elected directors of the Company.

It was proposed by Mr. R. Rice, seconded by Mr. H. W. Smith, and carried unanimously, that Mr. William Thomas Morrison and Mr. Alfred Williams be re-elected auditors for the ensuing year, and that their remuneration be £10 10s. each.

It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. D. Hulett, and carried unanimously, that the thanks of the shareholders be given to the local committee at Singapore for their attention to the business of the Company.

It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. D. Hulett, and carried unanimously, that Mr. E. J. Wells, the Company's engineer and manager at Singapore, receive the thanks of the shareholders for his energy and careful management of the Company's affairs at Singapore.

It was proposed by Mr. D. Hulett, seconded by Mr. H. W. Smith, and carried unanimously, that the thanks of the shareholders be given to the directors for their superintendence of the business of the company.

The Chairman, in reply, acknowledged the compliment paid, and expressed the appreciation on the part of the board of the confidence reposed in them. Referring to a suggestion made as to an increase of dividend, he said the directors were anxious to increase the amount, but only when they felt that such increase would be of a permanent character. On this point he held a very strong opinion. Overhasty increase of dividends enabled speculators on the Stock Exchange to trade upon companies, but was certainly not beneficial to the companies themselves.

It was then proposed by Mr. R. Rice, seconded by Mr. T. A. Green, and carried unanimously, that the thanks of the shareholders be given to Mr. R. King, the company's engineer and secretary, for his uniform courtesy and attention to the shareholders and the business of the company, and the meeting separated.

GERMANY.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

HAMBURG, APRIL 24.

The events of the past week and the present state of the Eastern disturbances, although sad enough if regarded in general, have been welcomed on our Exchange as a decided change for the better. War between Russia and Turkey is regarded by our business men as a *fait accompli*, and the future events are looked upon now with a quietness which is really astonishing in comparison with the anxiety which was formerly prevailing. At the end of the past week the rates for almost all paper showed a rise, and could be noted higher than the week before, and for the first time after a long period of slackness a lively and animated business has taken place, many sales being effected. It cannot be denied that there are also Pessimists who predict an universal European war to arise from the present disturbances, but these at present have not the least arguments for their dark prediction, and it is a fact that, as much depends on the German Emperor and his famous Chancellor, every means will be put in action to localise the coming war between the original participants.

The festivities arranged on the occasion of the late visit of the Crown Prince and Princess, and the participation of the public, have surpassed everything hitherto seen in this direction at Hamburg, and I think it may be even welcome to English readers to have a small sketch of the festival days. The high married couple with their eldest son arrived here on Thursday last at three o'clock in the afternoon, and took their residence at the "Hotel de l'Europe." The whole neighbourhood of the latter was literally covered with flags, garlands, and flowers, and the whole city displayed a view which, better than could have been done by words, expressed the deep feeling of love and veneration which prevails amongst all classes of our population for the high visitors. The Prince next day visited the harbour, quays, Sailors'-home, Meteorological-office, and even made a trip underneath the earth in a tunnel, which stretches under our city for several miles. The Crown Princess visited the principal educational institutes, schools, &c., and she as well as her husband everywhere displayed such a singular gentleness and amiability as to win the hearts of the whole of Hamburg for ever. The weather was clear but cold, and not very agreeable for staying out of doors. In the evening a really gorgeous illumination was arranged, and the streets, especially those in the vicinity of the city-theatre, the hotel and other places were thickly crowded with spectators up to midnight. The Prince and Princess look very well, and when leaving expressed their best thanks for the reception they had met with.

Business with the Far East, in consequence of the threatened war in the East of Europe, is at present much restricted, and the exports are small, although the Deutsche Dampfschiffs Rhedered is on the eve of despatching two steamers, one at the end of this, and the other on the 10th of next month. But this may not be regarded as a sign of liveness, but the company, having five of its boats in or near Europe, only intends to have them a little better distributed, and ready to make use of the rates of freight in India and China, which, by the last reports from Hong Kong, are on the rise.

In our port cargo is scarce, rates of freight are quite nominal, and no doubt the best sailing tonnage would be procurable at 20s. per ton. Steam is in accordance, and although 40s. in full is the nominal rate, still goods are shipped at much cheaper rates.

The International Bank of Hamburg held its usual meeting of shareholders on the 19th of April. One of the shareholders expressed the meaning a dividend of 3 per cent. not being considerable enough, and thought it to be better to wind up the establishment than to run such risks as in the past year and only to earn 3 per cent. The Chairman declared the profits of 1876 to have been 5½ per cent., but the board will take a resolution of winding-up into consideration. Further, the Chairman stated, the loss of the International Bank of Hamburg and London (Limited) to be a consequence of the want of general buoyancy, and hoped for the London branch an improvement during the ensuing year. The report and balance-sheet of the establishment has been passed.

The Eastern Siberian Trading Company has called its shareholders for the annual meeting for the 17th May. The report and balance-sheet will be read, and, besides, the board moves the winding-up of the establishment. This latter circumstance may be taken as a proof of the unprofitable working of the company.

PRODUCE MARKETS.

Our markets have been influenced during the past week by the still pending decision on the Eastern question, and transactions have been inconsiderable. Money has not been quite so abundant as during the previous few weeks, but rates of discount in the open market remain at 3¼ to 4 per cent.

RICE.—Holders are reserved in consequence of the more favourable reports from England, and transactions have been unimportant.

TEA is quiet. The following first-hand parcels have been sold, viz., 360/8 boxes Java, and 150/8 boxes Souchong.

COTTON also remains quiet, and sales have only been made in American and African descriptions.

SPICES.—Nutmegs are quoted m.5.60 to 6.20; Mace, m.4.70 to 4.90 per kilo. Cloves have been in good demand; Zanzibar quality at m.141 to 142 per 50 kilo. Pepper maintains its value; Singapore quality m.33 to 33½; Penang, m.36 to 36½; White, m.69 to 80 per 50 kilo.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

AMSTERDAM, APRIL 25.

The members of the Second Chamber met the day before yesterday for the despatch of business. Mr. Mees asked some questions of the Ministry in this very short sitting, which only lasted one hour, about the state of the new waterway from Rotterdam to the North Sea, which becomes worse every day. He asked whether the Government would propose within a short time some vigorous measures in order to improve that canal, which now becomes unfit for

shipping. Mr. Heemskerk at once replied that he had obtained every information abroad, in order that he might know what could be done to ameliorate the deplorable state in the mouth of the new canal, and that he would ask without delay a new vote in behalf of this matter, which after this declaration dropped. The other business had only a very local character. The members worked yesterday in Committee, and they are convoked to meet again to-day in an open sitting.

At the last Sugar conference, which was held in the month of March at Paris, a draft was made for a new treaty which is now under consideration of the Governments of Holland, France, Belgium and England. The question, however, is whether such a treaty will be made. So much is certain, that these transactions lasted much longer than our Government thought, so that it has become impossible to change the state under which the beetroot-sugar manufacturers are working. In order to make it possible that they can go on in the next campaign, the Government stipulated that a Bill should be laid before our members of Parliament in order to procure that the terms for a revision of the actual law would be delayed for one year, ergo, to 31st July, 1878.

The Government has granted a concession to the Netherlands-India Railway Company for the construction and exploration of the railway lines from Djocjokarta to Mangelang and Tjilatjap, and from Sourakarta to Malloen. The State guarantees an annual interest of 5 per cent. during forty years. At the same time the Government bought from the said society the railway from Batavia to Buitenzorg for a sum of five millions. The shareholders are convoked to meet on May the 16th, in order to approve the granted concession.

The seventh annual report of the Steam Shipping Company Nederland was published. It shows that the monthly service, which was established on October 30, 1875, has been crowned with a complete success. The voyages, as a rule, did not take so long as was stipulated in the contract. The trip from Naples to Padang lasted on an average twenty-six days, to Batavia twenty-nine, from Padang to Naples twenty-eight, and from Batavia to that port thirty days. The six steamers provided sufficiently in the service; as a rule, they docked forty-six days between every voyage. Three extra trips could be made, in consequence of the contract with the Company Java, and another one by the steamer Stad Amsterdam of the Royal Company. In toto, sixteen out and fifteen home voyages were made. The merchandises conveyed to Java amounted to m.30,627 and from Java 16,336 lasta, against 15,691 in 1875. The number of passengers to Java was—1st, 2nd, and 3rd class, 4,859, against 3,779 in 1875, and from Java 2,491, against 2,191 in 1875. Only the number of the first-class passengers decreased. The financial results of last year would have been more favourable, if not a considerable part of the profits were lost by the disaster of the steamer Prinses Amalia. The costs amounted to f.186,346.11. The Insurance Company, however, refused to pay, and the result of a law-suit being most uncertain, the directors agreed to one-half of the loss. The profits were in toto f.775,278.75½, of which had to be paid a sum of f.595,330.53; leaving a net profit of f.179,948.22½, out of which a dividend of 5 per cent. can be paid, leaving an amount of f.468.22½ for the new account. The financial state of the Company is most satisfactory. Since the 1st of January a three-weekly service has been instituted, and it is most probable that in the current of this year fixed terms will be introduced for departure. On May the 9th the annual meeting of shareholders will take place here.

The papers contain during the last few days much correspondence, written by officers, who complain about the last measures taken by the Minister of the War Department to sharpen the discipline in the army. It is, for instance, forbidden to the officers to make use of an umbrella, if they are dressed with an overcoat. These and other similar regulations are very severely criticised. If this continues I fear that the discipline will be enormously slackened. In other letters is pleaded the necessity to improve the salaries of the officers, who are obliged to maintain their honour, above all, and who by no means are able to pay their debts when they live as they ought to do.

The news about the forthcoming general elections, which must take place in the month of June next, begins now to circulate. I told you that Mr. A. Kuyper does not wish to be re-elected; the same can now be stated of Jhr. J. L. de Jonge; both belong to the anti-revolutionary party. Mr. Nierstrasz also declines the honour, and there are still more members who will give up their membership.

Mr. W. Stortenbeker, first Governmental Secretary at Batavia, has been appointed, as *het Vaderland* says, Director of Public Worship, Instruction and Industry.

H. M. our King started for his seat "het Loo," where he will remain a very long time. He passed in this town a very bad week. It has created much surprise that he has not awarded some crosses of orders to the members of the commission of the Flower-show and to the members of the jury.

I regret that I have to note the death of Mr. E. L. Baron Van Hardenbroek van Lockhorst, who represented the district Amersfort during several years in the Second Chamber, and that of Mr. P. S. Gerlings, of late member of the Council of Justice at Batavia, who died in Leiden.

PRODUCE MARKETS.

The outbreak of war in Eastern Europe has already influenced our trade, and business is almost entirely checked. Prices, as a rule, are declining, except those of Sugar. Good ordinary Java Coffee is quoted 50c. Important lots of Java Tobacco will be offered for sale during the next few days. The Dutch Trading Company has offered for sale 146 bs. and 337 chests Java kind, which were sold at the following prices:—

224 collis Saccirubra ...	... from 118c. to 237c.
131 " Calisaja Javanica ...	... " 110c. to 418c.
22 " " Shuhkraft ...	... " 136c. to 311c.
29 " " Ledgeriana ...	... " 630c. to 1085c.
50 " Officinilalii ...	... " 176c. to 640c.
22 " Caloptera ...	... " 50c. to 191c.

The closing quotations on 'Change are as follows:—Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cent., 61½ per cent.; do. Three per Cent., 75½; do. Four per Cent., 93; Dutch Trading Company, 101½; Netherlands-India

Trading Bank, 119½; Netherlands Bank, 348½; Rotterdam Bank, 83½; Amsterdam Bank, 80; Java Gas Company, —; Java Bank, —; Steam Company "Java" (Shares), 45½; do. (Obligations), 92; do., "Neder-land" (Shares), 90; do. (Obligations), —; Dutch-India Railway (Shares), 98½; do. 1869 (Obligations), 4½, 102; do. 1874 (Obligations), 4½, 101 per cent.

The Bourse is very dull, and the transactions are limited, in conse- quence of the War. Some very large houses trading in Bonds have stopped payment, which has caused a sort of panic. American railway bonds have fallen 10 to 15 per cent. The Bank rate of discount is 3 to 3½ per cent., and money in the open market is obtainable at 4 per cent.

SHIPPING.

DEPARTURES.—April 19, from Brouwershaven, for Batavia, Maarten van Rosset; April 20, from Middelburg, for Java, Samarang; April 24, from Ymuiden, for Sourabaya, Jacob Roggeveen.

ARRIVALS.—April 20, at Flushing, from Akyab, Matthew Gay; April 21, at Brouwershaven, from Passaroeang, Jonge Cornelis; April 22, at Nieuwe Diep, from Banjoewangie, Slamet; April 23, at Hellevoetsluis, from Batavia, Hampton (str.).

Monetary and Commercial.

The general state of trade in the country, as evidenced by the reports from the manufacturing districts, is dull and unencourag- ing, the outbreak of war having renewed the feeling of suspense which was supposed to have been overcome a short time back. The Cotton market at Liverpool has been dull, and this has also affected the tone of the Manchester market, where neither manufacturers nor merchants are anxious to add to their pur- chases.

The depressed condition of the Tea market has increased dur- ing the past week, and merchants are now doing what in former years was usually done about the month of June, that is, after having refused many more profitable offers made for their teas, they are now accepting almost anything, sales being made ap- parently under panic and on a *saute qui peut* principle. In point of fact there seems to be only one price for all teas, namely, between 7½d. and 10d., and parcels which four months or so ago were worth from 1s. to 1s. 4½. per lb. are now being forced off at these prices. In Silk, beyond utter stagnation, there is nothing to note.

The total quantity of tea delivered from the bonded warehouses in London for the week ended the 21st inst. was 4,264,112 lbs., or an increase of close upon 10 per cent. on the preceding week, the total then being 3,878,721 lbs. Of the former total 2,365,553 lbs. was for home consumption, 1,042,123 lbs. was ex- ported, 757,001 lb. was removed coastwise, 96,733 lb. was sent coastwise for exportation, and 2,702 lb. was for ships' stores. During the same period the amount received as duty was £59,139, which, compared with a total of £64,013 for the pre- vious week, shows a falling-off of £4,874, or about 7½ per cent.

In the Produce Markets the actual outbreak of war has im- parted considerable animation to several articles, in which exten- sive speculative operations have taken place, and prices have followed an upward movement. On the other hand, many of the leading articles continue in a dull, if not depressed, condition, and quotations have receded. Quotations for Coffee show some recovery from the depression of last week. The rising ten- dency of Sugar has been checked, owing to large arrivals, and the market is now quiet, with a declining tendency. An active speculative demand has been exhibited for floating cargoes of Rice, which have been extensively sold at a rapid rise in value. Manila Hemp continues active and exhibits a further advance. Cocoa-nut Oil, Camphor, Gambier, Japan Wax and Rattans also show an improvement. Black Pepper has slightly declined; White is quiet at the previous value. Spices and Tin continue dull.

At the half-yearly meeting of the National Bank of India, on the 23rd inst., a dividend of 3 per cent. was declared, making 6 per cent. for the year. The speech of the Chairman, of which we give a report elsewhere, furnishes an interesting view of the perplexities into which some of the bank managers in China were plunged last year by the fluctuations in silver and the interruption to the telegraph.

We understand that, following the excellent precedent set by the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China in the estab- lishment of a superannuation fund, a movement has been set on foot by other establishments connected with the Far East with a view to the adoption of a similar step. We hope that the plan of establishing superannuation funds will become general among the India and China banks, whose servants are necessarily ex- posed to special risk from climate, pressure of work, and other like causes.

The report of the Submarine Cables Trust for the year ended 15th instant shows a balance of revenue of £25,303, inclusive of £3,102 brought in from last year. Of this £20,910 is ab- sorbed by the payment of the interest coupons; £1,941 is trans- ferred to the redemption fund, and £2,452 is carried forward. From the list of securities held by the trust, which have cost in all £342,544, it will be found that £162,938 is in Anglo-American stock, £82,721 in Eastern, and £95,856 in Eastern Extension shares.

Messrs. Ashton and Co. have issued a circular, announcing the dissolution of the firm, in consequence of the death of Mr. Ellis James Gilman. Mr. Ellis Gilman (son of the late Mr. E. J. Gilman), who has for some years been a partner, will continue the business under the firm of Gilman Brothers and Co., at the same offices, Crown-court, Old Broad-street.

Captain J. R. Kellock, at present the P. and O. Company's agent at Singapore, has been appointed to the Superintendency at Bombay, in place of the late Captain Henry. Captain Black, who is now on a tour of inspection in China, &c., will shortly return to his post in London.

The *Journal du Commerce Maritime* contains an article in which some interesting facts concerning the trade between Hol- land and the Far East via the Suez Canal are given. Since the year following the opening of the Canal, the statistics of Dutch trade for Asiatic ports have been, in 1870, 337,120 tons; 1871, 364,040; 1872, 335,597; 1873, 384,338; 1874, 379,468; and 1875, 414,108; or an increase of 76,988 tons for the five years. In 1875 the tonnage of vessels under the Dutch flag passing the Canal was 130,740 tons, and in 1876, 146,675 tons. These statistics are considered to indicate an important future for the general commerce of Holland with the Far East via the Canal. This was foreseen as far back as 1859 by the Dutch commission set on foot by the King to inquire into the probable effects of opening the Canal. After examining the power of production and the importance of the commerce with India, the commission reported that from what it had stated it was evident that a con- stant augmentation of the products of this country would excite more and more the commercial activity of Europeans, so that this vast country, with its population of 150 millions, would receive a strong impetus by the opening of the Suez Canal. The correctness of these views has been thoroughly proved by the event.

The tenders for £265,000 in bills and telegrams on India were received on the 25th inst. at the Bank of England, and were allotted at an average fall of 3 to 3½ per cent. on the prices ob- tained last week. Although the official notification does not mention the fact, it is certain that the allotment has been made on telegraphic transfer, and not on bills.

The price of Bar Silver has declined, in response to the re- ceipt of lower exchanges from India, and transactions have been effected at 54½d. to 54¾d. per oz. The market is now quiet. Mexican Dollars have also declined in value, and a few small amounts received during the week from New York have been placed at 54½d. per oz., but the price at the close may be con- sidered weaker.

BULLION AND EXCHANGE QUOTATIONS.

Bar Gold	...	...	77s. 9d.	—	per oz. std.
United States Gold Coin	...	...	76s. 3d.	—	per oz.
German Gold Coin	...	...	76s. 3½d.	—	per oz.
Bar Silver, Fine	...	...	4s. 6½d.	to 4s. 6¾d.	per oz. std.
Bar Silver contg. 5 gra. Gold	...	...	4s. 6½d.	to 4s. 6¾d.	do.
Mexican Dollars	...	...	4s. 6½d.	to 4s. 6¾d.	per oz.
Spanish Dollars (Carlos)	...	...	—	—	per oz.
Five Franc Pieces	...	...	—	—	per oz.

EXPORT OF SILVER FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO CHINA AND THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Year.	China.	Straits.
1874	£1,653,855	£1,484,851
1875	723,894	870,120
1876	1,273,757	758,461
1877 to date	595,946	476,993

DOCUMENTARY AND PRIVATE BILLS.

	60 d/a.	30 d/a.	Demand.
Colombo	1/8 9-16	1/8 11-16	1/8 13-16
Singapore	3/10 to 3/10½	3/10½ to 3/10½	3/10½ to 3/10½
Hong Kong	3/10 to 3/10½	3/10½ to 3/10½	3/10½ to 3/10½
Shanghai	5/1½ to 5/2	5/1½ to 5/2½	5/2½ to 5/2½

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.

Messrs. Arthur Capel and Co.'s Circular says:—Although the quantity of Congou offered at public sale this week has been smaller, there is no improvement to notice; on the contrary, fair kinds have sold at easier rates, the large quantities realised at auction during the past few weeks having, to some extent, satisfied the demand for common to fair Congous, even at the low rates established. Scented Teas and Green Teas also went at low prices. Privately there is but little business doing. Congous.—Red-leaf kinds: Siftings remain scarce, and full prices are maintained; common to fair common at 7d. to 7½d. per lb. are rather lower; good common to fair kinds from 8d. to 10d. per lb. are relatively cheap; medium to good and fine kinds have been steady; finest are now in a small compass. Black-leaf kinds: Common to fair common show but little change; good common to fair kinds have sold from 7½d. to 9d. per lb., being ½d. to ¾d. per lb. lower; fair to good medium are also rather easier; good to fine kinds remain steady, the quantity offering being moderate; in finest there is no change to re- port. New-make kinds: Common to fair are inquired for from 8d. to 11d. per lb., and show a slight improvement in prices; good-leaf kinds are also wanted. Oolongs are only in limited request at about previous prices. Souchongs remain difficult of sale. Scented Teas.—Canton Capers: Common have sold at 11½d. per lb., fair to good kinds have realised low prices at auction, say from 1s. 0½d. to 1s. 1½d. per lb. Orange Pekoes remain without change, the demand

being limited. Foochow Capers have sold at auction at previous rates. Orange Pekoes: Common to fair kinds are without alteration; good to fine are in fair request at fully previous prices. Green Teas.—The quantity offered at auction is still large, and prices consequently continue much depressed for all common to medium kinds, good to fine being comparatively firm. The public sales have comprised 20,538 packages, the whole of which were printed and sold without reserve. The deliveries for the week, as compared with last year, are as follows, viz.:

	1877.	1876.
	lbs.	lbs.
Home Consumption ..	2,341,001	2,398,179
Coastwise...	700,845	703,873
Exports ..	1,037,092	485,811
	4,078,938	3,587,863

SILK.

The market has been extremely depressed, and in the absence of business it is difficult to give quotations. The deliveries are 1,949 bales, against 2,397 bales at the same time last month, being from 1st to 25th inst. inclusive:—China, 1,067 bales; Canton, 339; Japan, 469; Bengal, 74; Total, 1,949 bales.

LONDON QUOTATIONS—APRIL 26.

CHINA.			
Tantlee, No. 1	...	23s. 6d.	to 21s. 0d.
" No. 2	...	22s. 6d.	to 20s. 0d.
" No. 3	...	21s. 6d.	to 19s. 0d.
" Red Peacock	...	18s. 0d.	to 16s. 0d.
Yuenfai and Hainan, Nos. 1, 2, and 3	...	18s. 0d.	to 22s. 0d.
Taysam Keying, Nos. 1, 2, and 3	...	17s. 0d.	to 21s. 0d.
Long Reel	...	10s. 6d.	to 14s. 0d.
Canton	...	12s. 0d.	to 17s. 0d.
Chinese Thrown	...	15s. 0d.	to 18s. 0d.
JAPAN.			
Maibash and Sinehu, Nos. 1, 2, and 3...	...	21s. 0d.	to 26s. 0d.
Idah, No. 2 (None)	...	...	...
Sodai, No. 2	...	18s. 0d.	to 19s. 0d.
Oshiu, Nos. 1, 2, and 3	...	17s. 0d.	to 23s. 0d.
Amatsuki	...	15s. 0d.	to 17s. 0d.
Kakidab	...	22s. 0d.	to 24s. 0d.
Hatcho-gee...	...	14s. 0d.	to 17s. 0d.

COFFEE.—Last week's decline brought the current range of value of Plantation Ceylon down to a lower point than for many months, whilst the total retrogression from the highest point in January amounted to about 26s., which has induced exporters as well as the home trade to buy more freely, and this week's sales, although extensive, have gone off with good competition, the downward movement is not only arrested, but prices at the close show a recovery of 2s. to 2s. 6d. In Native Ceylon business has been relatively moderate, at a slight decline. Closing prices are, triage 76s. 6d. to 89s., grey to coloury small 90s. to 94s., low middling 94s. 6d. to 96s. 6d., middling 97s. to 99s. 6d., good middling to fine middling 100s. to 103s., dull to fine bold 104s. 6d. to 113s. 6d., pea-berry 103s. to 109s.; Native small and broken 70s. to 72s. 6d., good ordinary 80s., pea-berry 85s. 6d. to 87s. The only sale of other East India during the week has been 502 bags Manila, good greenish Indan at 80s. 6d. to 81s., bold Zamboanza at 75s. 6d. per cwt.

COTTON.—Almost uninterrupted stagnation has prevailed in the market, an improving tendency, which has on one or two occasions appeared, being of short duration, giving way to renewed depression, and the course of prices has been almost continually downwards, but the actual decline does not exceed ½d. to 3-16d. per lb. The sales for the fortnight are about 14,000 bales. On the spot about 3,000 bales; Tinnivelly 5½d. to 5½d., fair to fine; Western Madras 5d. to 5½d., barely good fair to good; Bengal 4½d. to 5½d., good fair to good. For arrival, &c., 11,000 bales—Tinnivelly 5½d. to 5 3-16d. April to June, good fair; American 5 15-16d. April-May, middling (1m clause). For delivery—American 5 15-16d. to 6 5-16d. April to September, middling (1m clause).

CUTCH.—No business has transpired.

COIR GOODS.—At the weekly sales a moderate quantity of Cochín Yarn offered sold at rather easier prices. No Ceylon was offered. Coir Fibre sold well at full prices, and a good supply of Ceylon and Fiji Bristle ditto was all sold with competition at extreme rates. 98 bales and 1,500 cheeses and ballots (6 tons) Fibre chiefly sold, coarse Ceylon £15, middling rather coarse to fair pale Cochín £22 15s. to £25. 247 ballots (2 tons) Ceylon fair short Bristle Fibre sold at £31 5s. to £31 10s. *Kitoor Fibre* being rather scarce, 632 bundles (4 tons) Ceylon sold with competition at full rates, good long at 12½d. per lb.

CHINA STRAW PLAIT.—168 bales were offered at public sale, for which the demand was moderate, and only 70 bales white found buyers, prices being without material change, low middling £9 7s. 6d. to £10 5s., middling to good middling £12 to £16 10s., good and fine £19 5s. to £29 10s., superior £34 5s. per bale, and 5 cases at 7½d. to 7½d. per piece.

CHINA BRISTLES.—34 cases were offered, and bought in at 1s. 4d. to 3s.

CHINA TREACLE.—In auction 50 hogsheads offered were bought in at 15s.

CAMPHOR has been in improved demand, and 50 tubs Japan have been sold at 90s. per cwt.

COCOANUT OIL.—Fine Cochín offers at £42, but Ceylon is in demand and firmer, 150 tons on the spot having changed hands at £36 5s. to £37, and 200 tons now landing at £37 per ton.

HEMP.—The market for Manila has continued to strengthen. During the week sales have been effected of 2,000 bales Zebu, for arrival, distant shipment, at £30, also 300 bales good fair on the spot at £30. At the close there is a strong demand, and business has been done both on the spot and for arrival at full rates to a further advance, but particulars are not reported.

GAMBIER has exhibited considerable improvement during the week. On the 20th inst. of the large quantity of 2,270 bags pale free cubes of fresh import (chiefly ex Altona) offered, the sound was bought in at 30s., but nearly one-half was sea-damaged, which sold at a further de-

cline, all more or less blocky, 1st class at 24s. 6d. to 25s., with fine Java at 25s. 6d. Of block 1 ton sold at 19s., and privately 500 whole bales were sold on the spot at 20s. On the 24th inst. on the spot about 300 whole bales were sold at 20s. 3d., and for arrival 100 tons March-April shipment sold at 20s. 6d. ex ship. At the close the market continued firm, with small sales on the spot at 20s. 6d. for whole bales.

GUMS.—*Copal*: Of 179 cases Manila offered 10 cases fine yellow sort sold at 24s. 6d. *Damar*: Of 207 cases offered 20 cases fine pale unworked Batavia sold rather easier at 75s., the remainder being bought in, Batavia 77s., Singapore 74s. to 75s. per cwt.

JAPAN WAX has been inquired for, and 150 cases saucer and thick squares have been sold at 44s. per cwt.

MATS.—Of 100 rolls offered 50 rolls sold at 28s. per 20.

ORCHELLA.—At auction 738 ballots Ceylon sold readily, dull to good flat at 46s. to 49s.

PLUMBAGO.—In auction 50 barrels Ceylon were partly sold, small bright lump at 14s. 3d., extra bold ditto 15s. 9d. per cwt.

PEPPER.—*Black*: A small supply (862 bags) offered at the public sales was nearly all disposed of at 1-16d. decline for Singapore. Of 435 bags Singapore 250 bags sold at 3½d.; 188 bags ordinary small Trang sold at 3½d.—*White* continues slow of sale at previous rates. Only 160 bags Penang were offered by auction, of which 88 bags sold at 6d., with one lot at 6½d. Privately sales of good Singapore have been made at 6½d.

RATTANS.—At auction 3,000 bundles (9 tons) Java sold readily at probably the highest prices ever known, viz., £35 to £36 5s. per ton; 40 tons Singapore were only partly sold, chiefly damaged £7 5s. to £11 5s. per ton.

RICE.—With a continued active demand for cargoes business has been effected at a further advance. Twelve cargoes have been sold, viz.:—The Sumatra, 1,060 tons Necransie, February sailing, at 9s. 4½d. open charter; the Aberfeldy (steamer), 1,442 tons Rangoon, resold at 10s. 6½d., quay terms, Liverpool; the Syren, 439 tons Moulmein, February sailing, at 9s. 9d., open charter; the Cordelia, 789 tons Japan, October sailing, at 10s. 9d., for Bremen; one of 800 to 1,000 tons Rangoon, April sailing, at 9s. 7½d., open charter; one of 850 tons Baesein, March sailing, at 9s. 4½d., open charter; one steamer, 1,500 tons Moulmein, at 10s. 1½d. for the Continent; one of 600 tons Necransie, now loading, at 9s. 6d., open charter; the E. P. Bouverie, 1,800 tons Rangoon, February sailing, at 9s. 10½d.; one of 1,100 tons Necransie, April sailing, at 9s. 7½d.; one of 1,600 tons Moulmein, March sailing, at 10s., and the Piedmont, 650 tons Necransie, February sailing, at 9s. 6d. On the spot 8,000 bags old Baesein have been sold at 9s. 6d. cash, and 3,000 bags old Rangoon at 9s. 7½d.

SPICES.— *Ginger*: 20 cases small lined Japan sold at 30s. *Cassia Buds*: Of 141 boxes good China only 20 boxes sold at 75s. *Cinnamon*: 11 bales Ceylon sold, first sort at 2s. 6d. to 2s. 10d., second at 2s. 5d., inferior 1s. 5d. *Cinnamon Chips*: 70 bags sold, low bark at 1s. 0½d., common chips at 4d. to 4½d. *Cloves*: The market is depressed by large supplies, and no East India have been offered. *Nutmegs*: Of 3 cases 21 boxes Penang 9 boxes sold, 82's at 3s. 7d. to 3s. 8d., 108's bought in at 2s. 8d.; of 5 cases Java 2 cases 86's sold at 3s. 5d. *Mace*: 2 cases good Penang sold at 2s. 8d., 9 boxes ordinary bought in at 2s. per lb.

SCGAR.—Early in the week, although a good supply was offered in public sale and arrivals at ports of call were unusually numerous, amounting to about 40 cargoes, the market continued firm, although not active, and business was effected at fully previous rates. At the close the market has become dull, and sales have been effected slowly at previous rates for refining and grocery West India, but 6d. decline for speculative brown kinds. The deliveries last week included 1,150 tons China and Manila, and the landings included 42,293 bags China and Manila. The following is a detailed account of the business done in East India descriptions. On the 20th, in auction 1,741 bags fine strong coloury European Penang were bought in at 28s. 6d., but afterwards sold thereat. Of 9,455 bags China 3,600 bags sold at previous rates, low and ordinary brown at 20s., refined (1,200 bags Hong Kong) at 24s. 6d. to 25s. 6d. for brown, and 26s. 6d. to 27s. 3d., the remainder being bought in, brown Hainan at 21s. 6d. to 22s. Privately 1,200 bags ordinary Hainan China sold at 21s., and 3,000 bags brown clayed China at 24s. 6d. On the 21st privately 500 bags low China sold at 19s., 350 tons Hainan China price not reported, also for arrival 200 tons Native Penang at 19s. 6d., and a floating cargo for the United Kingdom, viz.:—1,020 tons Java No. 14½ at 31s. 6d. On the 23rd privately 500 tons Native Penang sold at 20s., 50 tons clayed Manila at 26s. and 150 tons brown China at 20s. On the 24th, at auction 13,285 bags China were all bought in as follows:—1,463 bags Swatow at 21s., 9,620 bags Hainan per Altona at 22s., 2,197 bags white refined (similar to home-made pieces) withdrawn. After the sale 4,500 bags of the Hainan sold at 21s. The floating cargo per Threeewood, 1,800 baskets Java, No. 13 to 13½, sold at 32s. for a near port. On the 25th privately 20 tons Native Penang sold at 19s. 9d.

SAGO.—In auction 472 bags small pearl were withdrawn.

STICKLAC.—117 cases Singapore bought in at 54s. per cwt.

TAPIOCA.—In public sale 956 bags Singapore were all sold at about previous rates, small to good at 2½d. to 2½d., fine at 2½d., Malacca at 2½d. to 2½d. Of 678 bags Penang 450 bags sold, very fine Alma at 3d., good at 2½d. *Flour*: 371 bags Singapore bought in at 2d.

TIN.—The demand has continued very sluggish, prices have again ruled in buyers' favour, and only a few hundred tons have been sold. Closing quotations are:—Straits on the spot £69 to £69 10s., afloat £69 10s.; Banca, £73; Billiton, £71 per ton.

TOBACCO.—393 bales China Leaf sold at 3½d. to 5½d., 3 bales ditto damaged 3½d., 245 bales Japan 5d. to 9½d., 3 bales ditto damaged 3½d. to 7d., 8 bales Sumatra 3s. 10d. to 4s. 7d., and 4 bales Manila 5d. to 1s. 8d.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

METALS.

IRON.—Welsh: Rails, £5 10s. to £5 15s.; Bars, £6; Staffordshire Best: Bars, £7 10s. to £8; Nail Rods, £7 10s. to £8; Hoops, £8 10s. to £9 15s.; Sheets, £9 10s. to £12; Scotch Pig, No. 1,

£2 13s. 6d. to £3 4s.; Swedes, Bars, Hammered, £11 to £12; Swedes, Steel in kegs, ½ and ¾ in., £16 10s.

YELLOW METAL.—Sheets, 4 by 4 ft., 7½d.; Sheathing and Rods, 7½d. per lb.

TIN.—English Refined, £76. Tin Plates: Charcoal IC, per box, 22s. 6d. to 28s.; Coke, 18s. 6d. to 22s.

LEAD.—WB, £22 10s.; do, other brands, £20 17s. 6d. to £21 5s.; Spanish soft, ex ship, £20 15s.; Sheet, £22 to £22 10s.; Shot (kegs extra), £24 10s. to £24 15s.; White do., £23.

SPELTER.—Silesian, £20 10s.

QUICKSILVER.—In bottles of 75 lbs. each, £7 5s.

MANCHESTER GOODS.

On the 23rd a reaction in Liverpool and the news of the breaking off of diplomatic relations between Russia and Turkey had a somewhat disturbing effect as regards the inquiry, but prices remained steady. On the 24th at the opening there were indications of a better demand, and where business could be repeated at the lowest rates of last week a fair amount of transactions took place, principally in China makes of Grey Goods. Many producers, however, hold to their quotations, and on the whole there has been little advantage to buyers.

QUOTATIONS FOR CHINA GOODS.—F.O.B. IN LIVERPOOL.

GREY SHIRTINGS, in bales of 50 pieces. 38½/39 yards ss.

Chop.	Width	Weight	39 in.	39 in.	39 in.	39 in.
			5 4	6 0	7 0	8 4
Open	Ordinary	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Tree	Good Ordinary	4 6½	5 2	3-16	5 3½	6 2½
Pillar	Low Middling	4 9½	5 6	11-16	6 2½	7 4
Leaf	Middling	5 0½	5 9	11-16	6 3½	7 8
Pagoda	Good Middling	5 4	6 11	3-16	6 8½	7 8½
Ostrich	Good	5 8½	6 0	11-16	6 11½	8 3½
Horse & Jockey	Very Good	5 11½	6 3	11-16	7 3½	8 4
Windmill	Superior	—	—	—	7 5½	8 5½
Hand & Branch	Best	6 0½	7 0	11-16	7 8½	8 10

Chop.	Width	Weight	44½ in.	44½ in.	44½ in.	44½ in.	44½ in.
			7 0	8 0	9 0	10 0	11 0
Open	Ordinary	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Tree	Good Ordinary	6 5½	7 1	8 1½	9 8½	10 9½	—
Pillar	Low Middling	6 8½	7 5½	8 4½	9 10½	10 10½	—
Leaf	Middling	6 9½	7 7½	8 7½	9 11½	11 1½	11 9½
Pagoda	Good Middling	6 11½	8 1½	9 1½	10 4½	11 6½	12 4½
Ostrich	Good	7 0½	8 2½	9 2½	10 5½	11 7½	12 6½
Horse & Jockey	Very Good	7 3½	8 5½	9 5½	10 7½	11 11½	12 7½
Hand & Branch	Best	8 3½	9 11½	10 11½	11 10½	12 12½	—

MADAPOLLAMS, in bales of 150 pieces. 24 yards ss.

Chop.	Width	Weight	32 in.	32 in.	32 in.	32 in.
			2 8-10	10 3	0-12	12 13
Open	Ordinary	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Tree	Good Ordinary	2 4	3-16	2 9½	—	—
Pillar	Low Middling	2 5	3-16	2 10½	—	—
Leaf	Middling	2 6	3-16	2 11½	—	—
Pagoda	Good Middling	2 7	3-16	3 0½	—	—
Ostrich	Good	2 8	3-16	3 1½	—	—
Horse & Jockey	Very Good	—	—	3 2½	—	—
Hand & Branch	Best	—	—	3 3½	—	—

GREY JACKETS, in bales of 150 pieces. 20 yards ss.

Chop.	Width	Weight	39 in.	39 in.	41 in.	41 in.
			3 1-12	12 3	3 12-14	14 14
Horse & Jockey	Very Good	3 6	17-32	3 1	1-32	3 6
Hand & Branch	Best	3 7	17-32	3 1	1-32	3 7

GREY T-CLOTHS, in bales of 50 pieces. 24 yards ss.

Chop.	Width	Weight	32 in.	32 in.	32 in.	32 in.
			6 0	7 0	—	—
Ordinary	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Tree	4 3½	4 11	1-16	—	—	—
Pillar	4 8	5 2	1-16	—	—	—
Pagoda	4 11	5 5	1-16	—	—	—

MEXICANS.

Ordinary	32 in.	36 in.
5 5	1-16	6 3
5 8	1-16	6 6
6 0	9-16	6 11
6 8	1-16	7 11
7 0	9-16	8 0

COTTON YARN, CHINA QUALITIES, in bales of 400 lbs.

Common	16/24	28/32	Mock—38/42.
Pair Seconds	9½	10½	11½
Good do.	10½	11½	12½
Best do.	10½	12½	13½
Best	11	12½	13½
Mock Water	9	10	—
Do.	9½	10½	—
Do.	9½	10½	—
Do.	9½	11	—

WOOLLEN GOODS.—LONDON QUOTATIONS.

HH Long Ells	s. d.	per piece
HH Spanish Stripes	33 0	Scarllet
HH Camlets	2 10	yard
SS	63 0	piece
HH Lastings (6 reed)	52 0	Black
H Do. (5 reed)	46 0	Black
HH China Figures	18 6	Black
H Do. do.	15 6	Black
LL Do. do.	14 9	Black

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	Ship.	Captain.	From	At
Apr. 17	Star of the South	Smith	Singapore	Boston
14	Bellows (s.)	Alrens	Singapore, China, &c.	Hamburg
18	Misti	Riogeau	Ilo Ilo	New York
19	Dronning Louise	Hondo	Swatow	Falmouth
20	Obed Baxter	Baxter	Manila	New York
20	Frident (s.)	Monroe	Hongkong	London
20	Borealis	Scard	Shanghai	Do.
20	County of Bute	Belcase	Passarocang	Falmouth
20	Cordelia	Williams	Yokohama	Do.
20	Matthew Cay (s.)	Taylor	Akyab	Antwerp
21	Romeo	Clark	Hongkong	Falmouth
21	Carriek Castle	Dodd	Java	Queensdown
22	Lord of the Isles	Watt	Hong Kong	London
22	Palmerston	Sutor	Cheribon	Falmouth
22	Aurora	Thomson	Passarocang	Do.
22	Attilla	Ellis	Maulmain	Do.
22	Helen Angier	Staples	Sourabaya	Queensdown
22	Adolph Fridholm	Fredlief	Batavia	Do.
22	Jonge Cornelis	De Jonge	Passarocang	Helvoe
22	Slamat	De Greve	Hanjoewangie	Texel, for Amster.
22	Helen	Steege	Passarocang	Havre
23	Beemah	Blackstone	Hong Kong	New York
23	Hattie N. Bangs	Bangs	Padang	Do.
23	George Shulton	Miller	Hong Kong	London
23	M. Queen	Nisbet	Do.	Do.
23	Stella	Meyer	Shanghai	Do.
23	Imro	Diedrich	Manila	Falmouth
23	Heron	Stephen	Passarocang	Do.
23	Lord Raglan	Malley	Samarang	Do.
23	Erling Skjalgson	Scheil	Do.	Do.
23	Matilda	Dau	Hong Kong	Do.
23	Orpheus	Glass	Java	Queensdown
23	Arratoon Apear (s.)	Peters	Manila	Greenock
23	County of Ayr	Torrance	Java	Do.
23	Lota	Cosey	Do.	Havre
23	Elmstone	Bragg	Hong Kong	London
23	Andreas (supposed)	—	Do.	Deal
23	Faugh a Ballagh	—	Do.	Dover
23	Aberfeldy (s.)	Howell	Rangoon	Plymouth
23	Kristine	D-Innar	Samarang	Falmouth
23	Bernina (s.)	Allen	Rangoon	Liverpool
23	Aliquis	Marshall	Do.	Greenock
23	Cornuvia	Wilson	Sourabaya	Falmouth

DEPARTURES.

Date.	Ship.	Captain.	For	From
Apr. 17	Saracen	—	Shanghai	New York
10	F. B. Watson	—	Do.	Do.
11	Benefactor	—	Hong Kong	Do.
12	Petisch	—	Yokohama	Do.
15	Antoinette	Unwehand	Samarang	Ymuiden
16	Hankok (brig.)	—	Bangkok	London
18	Rebecca	Bungaard	Singapore	Cardiff
18	Titan	—	Hong Kong	Fenarth
18	Wanderer	—	Singapore	Newcastle
19	Strathern	Anderson	Shanghai	Cardiff
19	Marianne	Jacquet	Saigon	Havre
19	Maarten van Rossum	Cheripon	Batavia	Brouwershaven
19	Malacca	Leonoeau	Do.	Bordeaux
20	Hankok (s.)	Brown	Singapore	London (fr. Tyne)
20	Victoria	Bollesne	Do.	Liverpool
20	Nerinos	—	Batavia	Shields
22	Amboto (s.)	—	Shanghai	London
23	Duke of Abercorn	Dalrymple	Do.	Do.
23	Lochleven Castle	—	Singapore	Do.

See Shipping Postscript and Correspondents' Letters.

PASSED SUEZ CANAL.

Date.	Steamer.	From	For
April 20	Torrington	Rotterdam	Batavia
20	Conrad	Batavia	Nieuwe Diep
24	Prinses Amalia	Nieuwe Diep	Batavia

SPOKEN.

NOLA, Singapore to Liverpool, April 6, 24 N., 41 W.
ELISE, Formosa to London, Jan. 14, 26 S., 2 E.
AROS BAY, Rangoon to Channel, 11 S., 84 E.
ELECTRA, Singapore to Boston, Feb. 26, 27 S., 6 E.
LORD MACAULAY, Cardiff to Hong Kong, March 30, 7 N., 25 W.
ORPHEUS, Swatow to Falmouth, March 6, off St. Helena.
TWEET GUSTERS, Macassar to New York, March 18, 46 miles S., 23 W.
COTTERSTONE, Liverpool to Singapore, same day.
BATAVIA, Hamburg to Hong Kong, March 18, 1 N., 25 W.
JUPITER, Swatow to Falmouth, March 7, 15 S., 7 W.
MATCHLESS, Cardiff to Hong Kong, March 23, 2 N.
FREDERICK, Manila to Liverpool, April 1, 29 N., 41 W.
CHATTANOOGA, Padang, steering NNW., March 19, 6 S., 29 W.
HAMBURG, Swatow to Falmouth, 120 days out, March 29, 12 N., 31 W.
MERAPI, Amsterdam to Java, April 14, off the Lizard.

CASUALTIES.

RIO JANEIRO.—April 19, the Gaetania, from Antwerp to Hong Kong, has foundered at sea; crew landed here.

MISCELLANEOUS.

GIBRALTAR.—Arrived and cleared, April 17, Madeleine (str.), from Rangoon, for Nieuwe Diep; 16, Cadiz (str.), from Manila, for Cadiz.
MALTA.—Arrived and left, April 18, Peer of the Realm, from Rangoon, for Liverpool; 19, Langshaw (str.), from Rangoon, to Liverpool; Arrived, April 19, Ferdinand Van der Pallan (str.), from Bassein, f.o.; 20, Chelydra (str.), from Bassein, for Hamburg.
ST. HELENA.—Arrived and proceeded, March 27, Otto, from Manila,

for New York; Pieter Adolf, from Java, for Falmouth; 28, Condor, from Amoy, for Falmouth; Laurens Coster, from Singapore, for London; 29, Herzogin Anna, from Batavia, for Falmouth; passed, March 27, Edeline, from Penang, for London; April 2, Theophane, from Rangoon, for Liverpool.

CAPE TOWN.—Sailed, March 21, Laura Gertrude; 22, Lion; 24, Rio; all for Guam.

ALGOA BAY.—Sailed, March 22, Alcedo, for Guam.

EAST LONDON.—Sailed, March 15, Nile, for Guam.

NATAL.—Sailed, March 5, Noatin, for Guam.

SAN FRANCISCO.—Sailed, April 12, South American, for Manila.

GENERAL SHIPPING NEWS.

THE steamer Gleneagles, which sailed from London on the 13th March

arrived at Singapore on the 13th April, having made the voyage in thirty-one days and eight hours. After a detention of forty-eight hours at Singapore the Gleneagles reached Hong Kong on the 20th inst. The passage—thirty-seven days—is believed to be the fastest upon record.

CAPTAIN THE HON. FRANCIS MAUDE presided at the thirty-eighth anniversary of the Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners' Royal Benevolent Society, when it was reported that 10,386 widows, orphans, and shipwrecked persons had been relieved during the year, at a cost of £19,839, and that 1,965 widows received annual grants, for which purpose the dividends of the funded property are set apart.

OWING to favourable winds on the 24th inst. no fewer than fifty-two ships from India, China, and Australia figured on the books of the "Jerusalem" Subscription Room as having arrived, the number being for one day the largest on record.

OVERLAND ROUTE
and SUEZ CANAL.—The PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL COMPANY'S STEAMERS sail from Southampton, via the Suez Canal, as follows:—

...	Tons	11 p.m.	...	...
*Descan...	3,429	550	May 3	Mediterranean, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, Calcutta, Straits, China, Japan, and Australia.
Pekin...	3,777	600	May 17	Mediterranean, Aden, Bombay.
*Australia	3,663	500	May 17	Mediterranean, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, Calcutta, Straits, China, Japan, & Queensland.
Mongolia.	2,833	530	May 24	Mediterranean, Aden, Bombay.

* Taking passengers for Bombay also by branch steamer from Suez.

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* Passengers eastward of Suez securing their berths in London are entitled to the free conveyance of their luggage to Marseilles, as explained in the Company's handbook.

For Passage, Rates of Freight, and Particulars see the Company's handbook, and apply at the Company's London Head Office, 97, Cannon-street, E.C.; or at the West End Sub-Office, 51, Pall-mall, S.W.

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INDIA, ALEXANDRIA, CONSTANTINOPLE, SMYRNA, PORTS OF THE LEVANT, &c.—The AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S STEAMERS leave Trieste weekly.
For dates of sailing and all particulars apply at the offices, 127, Leadenhall-street, or at No. 14, Waterloo-place, London, S.W., and 4, Oriental-buildings, Southampton.

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Manila	LOYZAGA and Co.
Hong Kong, Canton, Macao, and Swatow	LANE, CRAWFORD, and Co.
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HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

Capital, \$5,000,000. All paid up.
Reserve Fund, \$500,000.

COURT OF DIRECTORS AND HEAD OFFICE IN HONG KONG.

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E. F. Duncanson, Esq. (of Messrs. T. A. Gibb and Co.).
A. H. Phillpotts, Esq., Carshalton, Surrey.
MANAGER—David McLean, 31, Lombard-street, E.C.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.
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Shanghai, Yokohama, Singapore
Foochow, Hioho, Bombay
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The Corporation grant Drafts and negotiate or collect Bills at any of the Branches or Agencies; also receive Deposits for fixed periods, at rates varying with the period of deposit.

The Corporation issue Letters of Credit, negotiable in the principal cities of Europe, Asia, and America, for the use of travellers.

They open Current Accounts for the convenience of constituents returning from China, Japan, and India.

They also undertake the Agency of constituents connected with the East, and receive for safe custody Indian and other Government Securities, drawing Interest and Dividends on the same as they fall due.

Dividends are payable in London on receipt of the advice of meeting in Hong Kong, held in February and August.

ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION.

Incorporated by Royal Charter, August 30, 1851.
PAID-UP CAPITAL, £1,500,000.
RESERVED FUNDS, £500,000.

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They undertake the agency of parties connected with India and the Colonies, the purchase and sale of British and Foreign Securities, the custody of the same, the receipt of Interest, Dividends, Pay, Pensions, &c., and the effecting of remittances between the above-named Dependencies.

They also receive deposits of £100 and upwards for fixed periods, the terms for which may be ascertained on application at their Office.

Office hours, Ten to Three; Saturdays, Ten to Two. Threadneedle-street London, 1877.

COMPTOIR D'ESCOMPTE DE PARIS.

Incorporated by National Decrees of 7th and 8th of March, 1848, and by Imperial Decrees of 20th July, 18th and 31st December, 1866.

Recognised by the International Convention of 30th April, 1862.

Capital, fully paid up... £3,000,000
Reserved fund... 800,000

£4,000,000

CHIEF MANAGER.—Monsr. G. Girod.
HEAD OFFICE.—14, Rue Bergere, Paris.
LONDON OFFICE.—144, Leadenhall-street, E.C.
LONDON BANKERS.—The Bank of England, the Union Bank of London.

BRANCHES AT—Lyons, Marseilles, Nantes (France), Brussels (Belgium), Calcutta, Bombay, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Bourbon (Reunion), and Yokohama (Japan).

The Bank grants Drafts and Letters of Credit on all their Branches and Correspondents on the Continent and the East, and transacts Banking business of every description.

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Established in 1833.

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Current accounts are kept at the Head Office on the terms customary with London Bankers, and interest allowed when the credit balance does not fall below £100.

Deposits received for fixed periods on the following terms, viz.—At 5 per cent. per annum, subject to twelve months' notice of withdrawal. For shorter periods deposits will be received on terms to be agreed upon. Bills issued at the current exchange of the day on any of the Branches of the Bank free of extra charge; and approved bills purchased or sent for collection. Sales and purchases effected in British and Foreign Securities, in East India Stock and Loans, and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Interest drawn, and Army, Navy, and Civil Pay and Pensions realised. Every other description of Bank and Money Agency, British and Indian, transacted.

J. THOMSON, Chairman.

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Threadneedle-street, 1877.

ALGEMEEN DACBLAD

VAN

NEDERLANDSCH INDIE,

First-class Dutch Daily Paper, published at Batavia, Java, by Messrs. ERNST and Co. Yearly, £5 3s. 4d. London Agent, FRED. ALGAR, 8 Clement's-lane, Lombard-street.

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Moderate premiums, at rates suited to each climate.

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Profits divided every five years.

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THE MISSIONARY SCHOOL, BLACKHEATH.

THE foundation stone was laid in 1856

by the Earl of Shaftesbury. The building was intended to accommodate seventy-five pupils, and was opened in 1857. The cost was £7,000. The Institution became a decided success; the number of boys rapidly rose to seventy-five, and in addition to these there were in attendance as day pupils twenty of the sons of gentlemen of the neighbourhood, it being thought advantageous that the missionaries' children should mix freely with boys born and brought up in England. For some years past there has been a growing difficulty in obtaining a sufficient income to keep the Institution in working order (probably in consequence of a very general impression that one or two of the Missionary Societies supported the School), so that it has been found needful to reduce the number of pupils to fifty. A meeting of subscribers was lately called to consider the expediency of closing the School. The result, however, was a vigorous effort to raise the necessary funds to carry it on efficiently. The appeal was warmly responded to, and £1,000 was obtained. The debt has been paid off, some necessary repairs effected, and the hope is that the Home and School, so valued by our noble band of missionaries, will be raised to a state of efficiency equal to that of its best days.

The Committee is happy to have as the present Head Master the Rev. Edward Waite, M.A., a gentleman of high literary qualifications, while Mrs. Waite is a true mother to the boys. There is an efficient staff of masters assisting Mr. Waite, and every confidence is felt that such an education is being given as will afford entire satisfaction both to the parents and the subscribers. The Institution is wholly non-sectarian in its character. The total number of boys received since 1852 is 307. Of these 176 were the sons of missionaries of the London Missionary Society; Baptist, 75; Presbyterian, 23; Wesleyan, Episcopalian, and others, 23.

The School is not intended for merely secular instruction; the spiritual interests of the boys are carefully attended to; they are diligently instructed in the truths of Holy Scripture, their conduct constantly watched over, and the whole of their school life pervaded by Christian influence. The Committee are aware that the character of education in general has been much improved in recent years, and being anxious not to fall behind any similar institution, have tested the progress of the boys periodically by Cambridge University Examiners and otherwise, with very satisfactory results. They desire to stimulate the diligence of the boys by offering for competition at least one scholarship—or by what shall be equivalent to a scholarship p. Some of the lads show excellent capacities, which would justify the highest opportunities of culture.

The terms on which pupils were originally received were £15 per annum. The charge is now £18, which, considering the increased cost of provisions, &c., barely equal to the £15 of former times.

The Committee respectfully and urgently solicit the annual assistance of all friends who are able to help the Institution by their contributions. They cordially thank the liberal contributors to the Special Fund above referred to, and beg again to remind them and other friends of the School that it is entirely dependent upon the payments of the parents, and upon voluntary subscriptions, there being no endowment of any kind, or any other source of income, with the exception of an Annual Donation from the executors of a deceased friend to which, however, there is no legal claim.

Subscriptions received by Dr. Mallens, London Missionary Society; Rev. Joseph Beazley, 13, Paragon, Blackheath; A. H. Bateman, Esq., Devonshire House, Blackheath, S.E.; or by the Agents of this Paper at the ports of the Far East.

THE AUSTRIAN MONTHLY ORIENTAL REVIEW.

PUBLISHED by FAEST and FRICK, booksellers, 27, Graben, Vienna, under the direction of the Oriental Museum in that city, with the co-operation of Messrs. M. A. Becker, Vienna; G. Detring Shanghai; F. von Hellwald, Cannstadt; Fr. von Hochstetter, Vienna; F. Kanitz, Vienna; A. von Kremer, Vienna; F. X. von Neumann, Vienna; A. Pez, Vienna; J. E. Polak, Vienna; F. von Richtofen, Berlin; C. von Scherzer, London; J. von Schwegel, Vienna; J. Vambery, Buda-Pest; G. Wagner, Yedo; J. von Zweedinek, Berout.

Edited by A. VON SCALA.

Published monthly. Annual subscription, 50kr. or the German Empire, 11 marks; for other foreign countries, 14 francs.

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Subscriptions for 1877 should be sent in early, as may not be possible later to obtain complete files.

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A Telegram dated Singapore, 23rd April, advises that the recent Fire has in no way interfered with the business of the Company. The Fire was confined to the Coals stored behind the Wharf; and the Dock Wharves, Warehouses, and Machinery are uninjured.

All branches of the business are being continued as usual.

MACTAGGART, TIDMAN, & CO., Agents.

34, Leadenhall-street, London, 24th April.

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(The only line of steamers under special mail contract with the Netherlands Government).

The following well-known Clyde-built mail steamers will be despatched on the undermentioned dates from SOUTHAMPTON, to PADANG, BATAVIA, SAMARANG, and SOERABAYA, calling at Naples, taking cargo also for all transhipment ports:—

PRINS VAN ORANJE, 3,000 tons, May 1.
HOLLAND, 2,500 tons, May 11.
VOORWAARD, 3,000 tons, May 22.
Fares:—First Class, £68; Second Class, £34.

For Freight and Passage apply to J. RANWICK and Son, Glasgow; or to the General Agents of the Company, KELLER, WALLIS, and POSTLETHWAITE, 16 and 7, King William-street, London, E.C.; 73, Piccadilly, Manchester; and at Southampton.

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Steamers.	Class.	Tons.	Horse-power.	Date of Sailing.
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Glenfalloch ...	100 A1	2,126	275	To follow
Glenroy ...	100 A1	2,121	260	To follow
State of Louisiana ...	100 A1	1,869	240	To follow
Glenlyon ...	100 A1	2,119	275	To follow
Glenegles ...	100 A1	2,800	330	To follow
Glenartney ...	100 A1	3,106	350	To follow
Glenearn ...	100 A1	2,120	330	To follow
Glenfinlas ...	100 A1	2,120	330	To follow
Glenyle ...	100 A1	1,676	200	To follow

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STEAM TO CHINA, via SUEZ CANAL.

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Pen., Sing., Hong K., Yokohama, and Hiogo.	Burmese, s.s.	100 A1	S.W.I.D.	With des.
Hong Kong	Kate Carnie.	A1	S.W.I.D.	With des.
Hong Kong	Lord of the Isles	A1 10 yr	W.I.D.	To follow
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Cassandra, s.s.	1,051 Robertson & Co.,	May —
Glenorchy, s.s.	2,788 McGregor, Gow, & Co.	May 5
Mikado, s.s.	1,993 Shaw, Williams, & Co.	May 3
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Ports.	Ship.	Class.	Tns.	Dock.	Sailing.
Pen., Sing., Hong Kong, Yokohama, and Hiogo.	Lorne	100 A1	1614 V.I.D.	May 3	
Do.	Atholl	100 A1	1408 V.I.D.	To follow	

For Freight or Passage, apply to GELLATLY, HANKEY, SEWELL, and Co., Albert-square, Manchester; 1, Fenwick-street, Liverpool; 51, Pall-mall, S.W.; or 109, Leadenhall-street, London, E.C.

Steam via the Suez Canal. To sail May 3.

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Shanghai	Wylo	A1 16 yr.	E.I.D.	With des.
Yokohama	Lothair	A1 16 yr.	—	With des.

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Hong Kong	Melbrek	A1 15 yr.	870 S.W.I.	With des.	

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Wigton	A 100	727	W.I.	Sailed
Abbey Cowper	A 100	699	W.I.	Sailed
Birchvale	A 100	893	W.I.	May 25
Vale of Doon	AA1	669	W.I.	To follow
Vale of Nith	AA1	697	W.I.	To follow
Abbey Town	A 100	702	W.I.	To follow
Benclotha	A 100	970	W.I.	To follow
Stuart	A 100	890	W.I.	To follow
Overdale	A 100	890	W.I.	To follow

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BLUE DIAMOND LINE. ANTWERP to SHANGHAI.

Ship.	Class.	Tonnage.	Date.
Wigton	100 A	727	Sailed
Edward Barrow	3/3 I.I.	958	May 5
A Clipper Ship	A1	—	To follow
Armanella	3/3 I.I.	915	To follow

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